

# THE ASYLUM

*Quarterly Journal of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society*

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Volume XVI, No. 1

Winter, 1998

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## CONTENTS

President's Message Michael Sullivan . . . . .	2
Announcements . . . . .	3
Collecting the Auction Catalogs of Numismatic Fine Arts Kerry K. Wetterstrom . . . . .	4
The Dick Punchard Library Sale Pete Smith . . . . .	8
Heritage Announces Summer Intern Positions . . . . .	11
United States Treasury Specimen Books . . . . . Raphael Ellenbogen . . . . .	12
Between the Covers Colonel Bill Murray, NLG. . . . .	19
NBS Meeting at FUN . . . . .	19
The Foote Counterfeit Detector and Armand Champa Michael J. Sullivan . . . . .	20
Some Letters by Edward Hawkins M. Lessen . . . . .	21

IT SEEMS TO ME THAT ALL COLLECTORS — unless the object of the mania is decidedly absurd — are worthy of respect to a certain degree. They combat and retard at one point universal and inevitable destruction. They save and preserve the past — and a selected past.

But I believe that among them those who collect old books are particularly inspired. For they preserve not only — as do other collectors — an object of art (here the binding, if it is beautiful, is a work of the brain as well as the hand); they preserve in addition what was through the printed word the direct expression of the mind. They often, by the fortunate reunion of these three things — an antique armorial binding, an important text, and an illustrious period, possess and safeguard historical fragments trebly alive.

— JULES LEMAITRE

## NUMISMATIC BIBLIOMANIA SOCIETY OFFICERS

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1810 Antietam Street	P. O. Box 32131	5911 Quinn Orchard Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15206	Cincinnati, OH 45232	Frederick, MD 21701

### *Members of the Board*

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Bill Murray, 7400 Crestway, Apt. 1423, San Antonio, TX 78239  
Joel Orosz, 4300 Old Field Trail, Kalamazoo, MI 49008  
Scott Rubin, P. O. Box 6885, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648  
Pete Smith, 2424 4th St. NE, #12, Minneapolis, MN 55418  
Frank Van Zandt, 6032 Van Zandt Road, Livonia, NY 14487

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Editor: George F. Kolbe  
P. O. Drawer 3100, Crestline, CA 92325  
email: NUMISLIT@compuserve.com

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**N. B. S. Membership:** \$15.00 annual dues in North America, \$20.00 elsewhere. Members receive all issues of the current volume. Requests for membership should be submitted to the Secretary-Treasurer.

## **Presidents Message**

The last "President's Message" outlined current NBS Board projects. A number have been completed; others are in progress. Already in your hands is the new *Asylum* index; a significant accomplishment due to the efforts of Messrs. Kolbe, Malkmus, Orosz and Sullivan. To further support the educational aspect of our club, the author and subject indexes will be provided electronically to The Harry W. Base Research Foundation for integration with their numismatic periodical index project available on the internet.

As many members have heard "via the grapevine," your board is now meeting approximately every three months via conference call to forge head on projects. The following is a summary of key decisions made during the last six months to benefit the organization.

### **BACK ISSUES OF THE ASYLM**

Once per year available back issues of *The Asylum* will be offered for sale in *The Asylum*. Back issues will be priced at \$5.00 per issue postpaid. The secretary-treasurer will maintain the inventory of back issues and coordinate all sales. See Volume 15, Nos. 3 or 4 for a list of available back issues.

### **ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT**

A Treasurer's Report will be included annually in *The Asylum*. It will be customary for the information to be disseminated following the annual club meeting in conjunction with the ANA Summer Convention.

### **ADVERTISERS - MEMBERSHIP NOT REQUIRED**

The board agreed to accept ads from non-members of NBS. The consensus was that the extra funds generated will help to support the organization.

### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

The board agreed that a membership report and list of new members should be included in each issue of *The Asylum*. The Treasurer will be responsible for submitting this information to the editor prior to each issue.

### **NBS AWARDS**

Long-standing members of NBS are familiar with previous controversies regarding award presentations. Policies for presenting awards have never been clearly established, occasionally leading the privileged to establish the outcome. To correct this situation, the Board has unanimously endorsed a plan to formalize the establishment of three awards and to take the opportunity to honor one of the club's founders, Jack Collins. The three awards are:

1. *The Aaron Feldman Award* for the best numismatic literature exhibit at the annual Summer ANA Convention. This annual award is already named and endowed with the ANA.

2. *The NBS Writer's Award* for the best *Asylum* article of the year as voted by the general membership. This will enable the organization to reward contributions to our flagship publication. Ballots will be sent out with the annual dues notices with a clear cut-off date for tabulation.
3. *The Jack Collins Award* for overall contribution to numismatic literature to be awarded periodically by the Board (not to exceed once per year). The award will be presented during the Summer ANA Convention club meeting.

Looking ahead to the next six months, the Board has a number of other excellent projects underway, with more pending. In particular, VP Wayne Homren is leading the development of an NBS Web Site which will be available by this summer. Mr. Frank van Zandt has prepared a draft of new NBS By-Laws which the Board is currently working to finalize. More information about these projects will be available in the pre-ANA issue of *The Asylum*.

All of this good news regarding progress we are making as a club begs the question: "What Else Do You Want from the Board and/or Club?" Feel free to write a letter to the editor or a board member.

Enough "President Speak!" Enjoy the rest of this *Asylum* issue.

### ***ANA Convention - Portland: Planning Underway***

The NBS will be holding a joint club meeting and educational forum at the Portland, Oregon ANA Convention in August. We are currently seeking speaker(s). If you or someone you know would like to participate in the educational forum, please contact Michael Sullivan. We can have a single speaker (25-30 minutes) or a series of speakers (5-10 minute topics).

### ***Membership Report***

NBS welcomes four new members: Robert C. Clark, Tom O'Mara, Craig N. Smith and William J. Stone. Currently, there are 234 NBS members.

#### **NBS PROGRAM AT CINCINNATI ANA MID-WINTER CONVENTION**

Noted bookbinder and preservationist Gabrielle Fox will be the featured speaker during the Numismatic Bibliomania Society club meeting at this year's ANA Mid-Winter Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio. British-trained, Ms. Fox is highly recognized as an exceptionally skilled artisan in custom leather bindings and miniature books. She excels at paper and book preservation and also teaches the art of preservation and book binding at various institutions across the United States. The presentation will be from 4-5 PM, Friday, March 20th at the Cincinnati Convention Center. Feel free to bring along a book, document, or pamphlet for Ms. Fox's recommendations on binding and preservation options. For further details contact Michael J. Sullivan, P. O. Box 32131, Cincinnati, OH 45232; tel: 513-665-4918.

## Collecting the Auction Catalogs of Numismatic Fine Arts Kerry K. Wetterstrom

Most of us in the coin collecting fraternity have, by now, probably read about the rise and fall of Bruce McNall, the former owner of Numismatic Fine Arts, International (NFA) as well as the Los Angeles Kings professional ice hockey team, Gladden Entertainment (a movie production company), and a part-ownership in Superior Stamp & Coin, Company. Much has been written about Mr. McNall and his business dealings, and it is not my intention to debate the pros and cons of his ethics and business practices in this article, but rather to discuss my own personal "bibliomaniacal" quest to obtain each and every auction catalog issued by NFA, especially the hard-bound or "Special Edition" issues as they are sometimes labeled.

I have always admired the catalogs issued by Numismatic Fine Arts, not only for their superb production values, but for the scholarly and highly readable cataloging by such eminent classical numismatists as David R. Sear, Catharine C. Lorber, Rob Freeman, Eric McFadden, Simon Bendall, et al. If Bruce McNall left one legacy to numismatics, it would certainly be these auction catalogs where seemingly no expense was spared!

In May of 1984 I was fortunate enough to be able to attend the sale of the first part of the John W. Garrett collection of ancient and foreign coinage sold jointly by NFA and Bank Leu, the Zürich, Switzerland firm. (The catalogs issued by Bank Leu are also highly sought after and would merit an article of their own). The sale of the Garrett collection was conducted at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel, not far from the offices of NFA, at that time located at 342 North Rodeo Drive. I made a point of visiting NFA's office as I wanted to meet in person both David Sear and Shirley McNall, Bruce's mother and the manager of the NFA book department. I had corresponded many times with Shirley and she had provided me with many of my early book purchases in the area of ancient numismatics. (I must admit that as I had only graduated from college the year before, books had been about the only items that I could afford to collect prior to that visit).

While chatting with Shirley, she showed me a few hardbound editions of prior NFA auction catalogs. I was immediately hooked so I purchased a few copies that were in stock at the time, and I also reserved a hardbound set of the Garrett catalogs that Shirley told me were to be produced (more about these later). After I returned home, at that time in Denver, I admired my coin purchases from the Garrett sale, but I was even more enamored with the catalogs. I spent countless hours perusing the pages of these catalogs and gleaning wonderful tidbits of information from the descriptions and stories contained within.

Over the course of the next decade, I started to attempt a complete collection of NFA auction catalogs with a special emphasis on the hardbound editions. I was fortunate enough to become friends with Rob Freeman, one of the numismatists at NFA, and he often provided me with hardbound copies of NFA catalogs as they were produced. But it was not until the demise of McNall's business empire, and with it NFA, that I started to seriously pursue NFA's hardbound catalogs. After all, they were now a finite set instead of an ongoing project. The first problem that I encountered, though, was to determine what exactly comprised a complete set of NFA auction catalogs and which ones were issued in a hardbound edition.

At first glance, it would seem to be an easy task as NFA, in the European tradition, numbered each one of their catalogs (using Roman numerals). But after lining up all of my catalogs on a shelf, I quickly realized that certain numbers were missing. But after examining the dates of certain sales such as the two Garrett sales held in California, I realized that the dates of these two catalogs fit perfectly into the numbered sequence. A discussion with Rob Freeman and David Sear confirmed that the Garrett catalogs, parts 1 and 3, were also NFA catalogs XIII and XV in the numbered sequence. In addition, several of the firm's mail bid sales were also part of the sequence, but they too, did not contain any identifying markings as to this fact. NFA also issued several catalogs, both mail bid and public sales, that they chose not to include in their numbered sequence at all (e.g., the Winter Mail Bid Sale of January, 1982, the "Caesar Sale" of 1991 and a Buy or Bid Sale of September, 1993).

The next task was to identify which catalogs were issued in hardbound editions, and this has proven to be a more difficult chore, hence part of the reason for this article. I have been able to locate copies of all of the so-called "Wide Edition" or oblong format catalogs issued in hardbound editions, usually in leatherette, by NFA. These catalogs measure 9 inches high by 10 inches wide (oblong small quarto) and were one of the unique features for most of the NFA public auction sales. NFA also issued some of their public auction sales and all of their mail bid only sales in a standard, 8.5 x 11 inch format (quarto), including the aforementioned Garrett collection catalogs and their 1991 and 1992 ANA convention sale catalogs.

The Garrett sale catalogs have proven to be quite elusive in the hardbound editions, and a recent offering by Dennis Kroh (Empire Coins, 31 March 1997, lot 317) is one of the few complete sets that I have seen offered and the price realized, an amazing \$385, seems to illustrate the rarity of the set! Both the 1991 and 1992 ANA convention catalogs were issued in a hardbound edition, but I am not aware of any of the other public sales or mail bid sales in the standard quarto format existing in hardbound editions.

One of the more interesting NFA auction catalogs is the sale titled *Julius Caesar and His Legacy - An Auction of Roman Coins*. This sale was held on May 13, 1991 at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas in conjunction with the ISI Money Show Conference which was held at the nearby Riviera Hotel. NFA, for their own reasons, chose not to distribute the catalog for this sale to the dealers on their mailing list as well as many of their regular customers. The sale targeted a specific audience, generally novices in their understanding of ancient coinage, hence the catalog was written specifically for them by the NFA staff, which included at that time Rob Freeman, Cathy Lorber, Paul Rabin and Dede Acosta.

It included a brief historical biography and background on the coin type for each emperor included in the sale as well as many individual "chapters" devoted to such topics as "Minting Roman Coins," "Roman Coin Denominations," "Grading Ancient Coins" and a "Glossary of Numismatic Terms." Also included was an introduction, "A Brief History of Imperial Rome," written by Rob Freeman. The actual technical, numismatic information (obverse and reverse descriptions, references, etc.) for each of the 155 lots in the sale was contained in a 7-page appendix at the back of the catalog.

Of course, it did not take long for the rest of the ancient coin dealer and collector community to "get wind" of the sale, and the catalog became an instant collector's item. Hardbound editions of this so-called "Caesar" auction do not exist, but the regular card-covered edition routinely fetches \$100 or more on the market (the copy in the Empire Coins sale garnered \$176, lot 314!).

#### NUMISMATIC FINE ARTS CATALOGS

CATALOGUE	SALE DATE	FORMAT	NOTES	HARDBOUND
Auction I	March 20, 1975	Oblong	Santa Barbara Museum of Art	Yes
Auction II	March 25, 1976	Oblong		Yes
Auction III	March 27, 1976	Oblong	Judaean & Biblical Coins	Yes
Auction IV	March 24, 1977	Oblong	Richard A. Van Every	Yes
Auction V	Feb. 23, 1978	Oblong		Yes
Auction VI	Feb. 27, 1979	Oblong		Yes
Auction VII	Dec. 6, 1979	Quarto	New York City	No
Auction VIII	June 6, 1980	Oblong	Boston MFA Duplicates	Yes
Auction IX	Dec. 10, 1980	Octavo	NYC - Norman Davis	No
Auction X	Sept. 17, 1981	Oblong		Yes
Winter MBS	Jan. 15, 1982	Quarto	Not numbered	No
Auction XI	Dec. 8, 1982	Quarto	NYC	No
Auction XII	March 23, 1983	Oblong		Yes
Garrett I (XIII)	May 16-18, 1984	Quarto	With Bank Leu AG	Yes
Garrett II	Oct. 16-18, 1984	Quarto	Conducted by Leu in Zürich	Yes
Auction XIV	Nov. 29, 1984	Oblong	NYC	Yes
Garrett III (XV)	March 29, 1985	Quarto	MBS w/ Bank Leu AG	Yes

## NUMISMATIC FINE ARTS CATALOGS (CONTINUED)

CATALOGUE	SALE DATE	FORMAT	NOTES	HARDBOUND
Auction XVI Summer MBS (XVII)	Dec. 2, 1985	Oblong	NYC	Yes
Auction XVIII	June 27, 1986 Mar. 31- Apr. 1, 1987	Quarto Oblong	2 parts, card-covers (Part I - Houghton - Seleucid Coinage)	No Yes (in 1 vol.)
Winter MBS (XIX)	Dec. 18, 1987	Quarto	Jonathan Rosen Collection	No
Auction XX	March 10, 1988	Oblong		Yes
Fall MBS (XXI)	October 12, 1988	Quarto	George Brauer Collection	No
Auction XXII	June 1, 1989	Oblong		Yes
Winter MBS (XXIII)	Dec. 14, 1989	Quarto		No
Fall MBS (XXIV)	Oct. 18, 1990	Octavo	Cutler, et al collections	No
Auction XXV	Nov. 29, 1990	Oblong	NYC - 'EID MAR' Aureus	Yes
"Caesar" Sale	May 13, 1991	Quarto	Las Vegas - Not numbered	No
Auction XXVI	August 14, 1991	Quarto	ANA - Chicago	Yes
Auction XXVII	Dec. 5, 1991	Oblong	NYC	Yes
Auction XXVIII	April 23, 1992	Quarto	Spring MBS	No
Auction XXIX	August 13, 1992	Quarto	ANA - Orlando	Yes
Auction XXX	Dec. 8, 1992	Oblong	NYC	Yes
Auction XXXI	March 18, 1993	Quarto	Spring MBS	No
Auction XXXII	June 10, 1993	Quarto	Spring NYINC	No
Buy or Bid Sale	Sept. 9, 1993	Quarto	Not numbered	No
Auction XXXIII	May 3, 1994	Quarto	Spring MBS	No

## ENDNOTES

*Quantities:* I would estimate that the average production of hardbound editions was 100 copies but this may have varied from as little as 20 (the two ANA sales) to as many as 500 copies (Auction I) based on information from former NFA employees.

*NFA Fixed Price Lists:* NFA also issued fixed prices lists, usually in a smaller format.(7" wide by 9" high). A few of these lists were Mail Bid Sales and as such, have been listed by the ANS Library as NFA Sales 4A and 5A (FPL No. 2, November 1977 and FPL No. 10, September-October 1978). This information courtesy of John Bergman.

*Rarity:* Most of the hardbound NFA catalogs would qualify as scarce, but I would define the following hardbound editions as rare: Auctions II, III, IV, V, VI, XIV and the Garrett Collection sales.

*Joel L. Malter:* Numismatic Fine Arts, Inc. was originally a partnership between Bruce McNall and Joel L. Malter. This partnership lasted through the first four auction sales until McNall purchased Malter's share of the company. Credit should be given to Malter, a noted numismatic bibliophile, for instigating the hardbound series of NFA catalogs.

*Edward Gans:* Gans was the founder of the original Numismatic Fine Arts and issued catalogs until the early 1960's. He was located in New York City and then later moved to Berkeley, California.

## The Dick Punchard Library Sale

Pete Smith

Just to the west of the Columbia Heights City Hall and Fire Station is a commercial block that has seen the evolution of numismatic literature dealers in Minnesota. Between 1981 and 1984, Michael and Marlene Bourne did business out of a store front at 508 40th Avenue NE. This location now has a beauty shop. Across the street at number 509, next to Marv's Barber-shop, is the store front where Remy Bourne started dealing in literature in 1995. This is now the location of "Ape Hangers," a store for custom motorcycle parts. In 1996 Remy moved across the street to an apartment over the beauty shop that shares the 508 address. Earlier this year Remy expanded into 506, a former upholstery shop that now houses the auction room.

A brown door with white lettering reading REMY BOURNE NUMISMATIC LITERATURE identifies the business. Upstairs overlooking the street is Remy's office with computer and copy machine. Here is where Remy does the cataloguing, and shelves set into a former closet hold current auction lots. A second room overlooking the street has more shelves and a work table. The kitchen is the wrapping area as well as having a sink, coffee machine and refrigerator. Two back rooms and the hall have shelves packed with literature. In places the shelves are too close for a visitor to bend over to look at lower shelves. The bathroom still serves its original purpose.

The auction area downstairs has more shelves around the walls and boxes piled behind a temporary drape. About 20 folding chairs were set up facing the head table. Coffee, cookies and soda pop were provided on a table near the door.

Fourteen people attended the first session of the sale of the Punchard library on Friday, September 12, 1997. The Bournes included Remy, Avis, Marlene and Michael. Their two assistants, Dick Hart and Lannie Dietrich helped with the sale. Sale consignor Dick Punchard was there to observe. Ken Lowe and Phil Carrigan came in from out of town to represent themselves and other bidders. The remaining five bidders were local collectors.

Remy did not call each lot in the sale. As in other recent sales he went through the catalog page by page. Potential bidders called for numbers that were opened at a small increment above the second highest mail bid. In this way, the sale moved along quickly.

Punchard collected every book listed in the bibliography of Sheldon's *Penny Whimsy*. These included many of the highlights of the sale. A copy of Andrews' 1883 original 2nd edition of *An Arrangement of United States Copper Cents 1816-1857* (lot 8) realized \$242. Ken Lowe, representing a California large cent collector, bought lot 19, S.H. Chapman's 1926 second edition of *The United States Cents of the Year 1794* for \$221; lot 20, the Clapp/

Newcomb 1947 monograph on *The United States Cents of the Years 1795, 1796, 1797, 1800* for \$187; lot 21, the 1931 Clapp monograph on *The United States Cents of the Year 1798-1799* for \$907.50; lot 25, Crosby's *The United States Cents of 1793*, a bound copy of the article from the April 1869 issue of AJN, for \$306; and lot 37, Frossard's 1879 *Monograph of United States Cents and Half Cents Issued Between the Years 1793-1857*, for \$275. I picked up lot 39, the Frossard-Hays 1893 monograph on *Varieties of United States Cents of the Year 1794* for \$181.50. Remy's *American Numismatic Periodicals 1860-1960* (lot 5) realized \$224.40. Prices mentioned include the 10% buyers' fee.

Dick was inspired by John Adams' *United States Numismatic Literature* to collect every sale identified as "C" or better for U.S. large cents. Some catalogs may have appeared at auction only once in twenty years. Among auction catalogs, lot 59, the 1930 ANA sale conducted by Paul Lange of The Hobby Shop realized \$215.60; Lot 200, the December 9-13, 1890, Chapman's sale of the collection of Thomas Cleaneay realized \$289.30; lot 235, another Chapman's sale of the Harlan P. Smith collection, with printed prices realized sold for \$248.60; lot 252, the May 27, 1921, sale of the Hilliard/Henderson/Kingman collections realized \$242; lot 269, the Earle collection sold June 25-29, 1912, realized 331.10; lot 285, the Jenks collection with printed prices realized sold for \$224.40.

Nine of the participants adjourned to The Ground Round restaurant after the Friday session. There was little discussion of the sale but much discussion about the principals and staff of a prominent national firm.

A pre-sale lunch on Saturday was at Vicky Mae's Restaurant [Under New Management] across the street and next to the barber shop. The waitress had been on the job three days but managed to keep the orders straight. We discussed specialized libraries. Ken Lowe described the world's greatest collector of literature having anything to do with Greek numismatics.

On Saturday, bidder attendance was down by one. One of the local collectors arranged for me to bid on his behalf. An added visitor was Remy's granddaughter.

The Saturday session began with lot 707, an 1869 first edition of Maris's *Varieties of the Copper Issues of the United States Mint in the Year 1794*. My opening bid was rejected and the lot was withdrawn. During a later break in the sale we discussed the book. It would be returned to Punchard and would be available later at a price near what he paid for it. I called George Kolbe during the week after the sale. He immediately congratulated me on my acquisition of the Maris book. I don't know how that rumor got started.

Lot 711, Newcomb's monograph on *The United States Cents of the Years 1801-1802-1803* went to Ken Lowe for \$671. Lot 713 was a copy of Howard Newcomb's 1944 first edition of *United States Cents 1816-1857* printed on thin paper and bound in red leather. It realized \$247.50. Lot 714 was a thick

paper first edition bound in red leather. It realized \$242. Another first edition bound in maroon cloth and annotated by Otto Steinberger (lot 715) realized \$635.80. Two 1956 second editions did not sell. A 1965 copy of Sheldon's *Penny Whimsy* autographed by Walter Breen, Dorothy Paschal and William Sheldon (lot 737) realized \$253. The following lot, another 1965 edition unsigned without dust jacket, did not sell.

Lot 1090, the Penn-New York Auction Company's sale of July 29, 1957, the first sale catalogued by Q. David Bowers, realized \$183.70; lot 1168, the Seavey/Parmelee sale of 1873, realized \$451; lot 1265, Woodward's sale of the Woodward collection, October 13-18, 1884, realized \$550; lot 1274, Woodward's sale of April 27-29, 1886, the Twining collection, realized \$425.70. I was interested in many of the Woodward catalogs and was successful in getting 19 of them with most going within \$5 under or over estimate.

There are many catalogs from the 1950s, 60s and 70s that would enhance the library of a collector of the big cents. Lot 1141 included 21 Stack's sales rated "A" by Adams. These included William Sheldon's first collection sold in October 1938; Anderson Dupont, September 24-25, 1954; Phillip G. Straus, May 1, 1959; Milton A. Holmes, October 5-8, 1960; Robert Kissner, June 27-28, 1975; Tad collection, February 4-6, 1976; Floyd Starr, June 13-14, 1984; and Herman Halpern, March 16-17, 1988. These sales were included in a group of 360 Stack's sales estimated at \$3300. The lot was unsold. Another group lot of 8 sales by Superior (lot 1197) included the Charles Ruby sale, part I, February 11-13, 1974 and Ruby III, February 10-12, 1975. This lot, estimated at \$40, also did not sell.

Collectors of U. S. large cents recognize three important fixed price offerings: the Adams, French and Pearl collection sales. Bowers and Ruddy's 1982 fixed price list of John Adams cents of 1794 came in a standard edition and a deluxe library edition sold by advance subscription. The deluxe edition (lot 1294) realized \$242. B. Max Mehl's fixed price list of the George French collection (lot 1303) and Numismatic Galleries' fixed price list of the Oscar Pearl collection (lot 1308) failed to receive an adequate bid.

I am amused when I see current books bring more than issue price when offered in auctions. My book on numismatic libraries (lot 741) is still available at \$10 but realized \$24.20 in the sale. Robert Julian's book on Mint medals (lot 50) is frequently offered at \$35 or less yet realized \$55 in the sale.

Ken and Phil were both strong bidders while representing their clients. I believe that the four local collectors were successful on fewer than a dozen lots among them. I managed to exceed my pre-sale budget by more than 20%.

While Punchard collected sale catalogs important for large cents, many of the catalogs are also important for other specialties. After the sale, Remy

mentioned that several specialists were strong bidders on catalogs important for their specialty and many bids were considerably higher than the price realized. Dick Punchard was pleased with the results. He had acquired the library for use rather than investment and said that he used the library almost every evening. He had already gotten his value out of the information and enjoyment he derived from it.

I have attended five of the six sales conducted by Bourne. With each sale, there have been unsold lots but I believe this sale had fewer unsold lots than usual. Distribution of the prices realized list allows collectors to identify unsold lots and I understand that a number of these items have sold at negotiated prices. Typically unsold lots are offered at 60% of the sale estimate.

There were few runaway prices and few lots bringing more than 125% of estimate. I believe many lots attracted one strong bidder willing to pay well above estimate but few lots attracted two strong bidders. Some material appears frequently at auction and drew little interest at this sale. For some material, the supply is thin but the market is also thin.

If this had been a public auction of large cents of similar rarity and condition, it would have attracted a hundred bidders. Many of those collectors were in Long Beach for sales conducted in the same week (The Robert Vail and Dr. Willard J. Carmel Jr. collections by Superior and the Mac MacDonald collection sold by Heritage). My offer over the Internet to review and report on auction lots did not receive a single response. I see few collectors of large cents building a basic library and no one attempting to duplicate what Punchard assembled.

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## Heritage Announces Summer Intern Positions

Heritage is seeking applications to fill three summer intern positions at its headquarters in Dallas, Texas. According to Steve Ivy, Heritage Co-Chairman, the firm is "seeking young numismatists, ages 18-22, who have an abiding interest in numismatics" and they are offering "the opportunity to spend the Summer in Dallas learning about the coin business." It appears that at least one intern will be placed in Heritage Rare Coin Galleries and one in Heritage Numismatic Auctions. The intern(s) filling the latter position will have the experience of helping to prepare the firm's 1998 ANA Summer Convention auction sale catalogue.

Interested young numismatists may contact Heritage with details of: 1) numismatic experience, including areas of specialization; 2) ANA courses taken; 3) club/numismatic affiliations; 4) general business experience; 5) academic record; 6) two letters of recommendation. For further information, Carrie-Ann Nemeth may be contacted at 1-800-872-6467 Ext. 242.

## United States Treasury Specimen Books Raphael Ellenbogen



IN THE LAST HALF OF THE NINETEENTH century, the Treasury Department Bureau of Engraving and Printing prepared a very limited selection of specimen books for distribution to dignitaries, political figures and the like. Each volume is "one-of-a-kind," with a different selection of superb intaglio-printed engravings.

The portraits and/or vignettes found in each volume are superb proof examples of design elements found on United States currency notes and financial documents of the period. However, unlike the portraits and vignettes on fiscal instruments, those found in specimen books are full-size and are not cropped, demonstrating in full the original intent and design of their talented artists and extraordinary engravers.

Some even have engraved titles. The engravings themselves are on India paper, typically mounted on the rectos of thick card stock leaves whose edges are gilt. Almost all are one proof to a page, only on one side of each leaf. Occasionally, proofs are found on both sides of a leaf and there may be multiple proofs on a page. Rarely, a proof may be found printed in color.

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*They are exquisite examples of the bookbinder's craft, preserving within them the superb artistry of our nation's top artists and engravers.*

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Titles are beautifully engrossed, in color, most including the names of the treasurer, assistant treasurer, chief of the bureau, chief of the engraving department, acting director, etc. This makes it possible to date the volume, usually within a year or two, based on the terms of office of the named officials. The treasury seal is found on most titles, printed in shades of black, green, red or purple. On a select few, a vignette of the treasury building replaces the seal. There is usually a frontispiece, with either the portrait of a president or a vignette of a government building or patriotic device.

These volumes are elegantly bound in sumptuous full leather (generally morocco) of various colors, handsomely tooled and lettered in gilt. There are raised spine bands with resulting compartments decorated in gilt and on one panel the legend: VIGNETTES AND PORTRAITS, PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES, PORTRAITS AND VIGNETTES, etc. In the extremely rare event of a multi-volume set, another panel would bear the volume number. The pages are interleaved with either tissue or bond guards. Most volumes feature decorative gilt inner dentelles and endsheets are sometimes marbled. All of the page edges are brilliantly gilt.

Some of these volumes bear the names of their recipient on the front cover impressed in gilt, typically within an oval gilt medallion. They come in all grades of preservation and a substantial number have been rebacked or are in need of it. They are exquisite examples of the bookbinder's craft, preserving within them the superb artistry of our nation's top artists and engravers.

Over the years, many of these remarkable volumes have been broken up and the individual proofs sold separately. Relatively few remain intact and in good condition. Because of their rarity, beauty and educational value, they are highly desirable and eagerly sought by bibliophiles, syngraphists and serious collectors all over the world.

Very little has been written, or is known about this subject, except for the following:

1. *Government Gift Books of Portraits and Vignettes* by Julian Blanchard, Ph.D., in THE ESSAY-PROOF JOURNAL No. 47, July 1955. Reprinted in THE ESSAY-PROOF JOURNAL No. 155 in Summer 1982.
2. *Government Portraits and Vignettes* by Julian Blanchard, Ph.D., in THE ESSAY-PROOF JOURNAL No. 77, reprinted in No. 163.
3. *United States Presentation Book of Portraits and Vignettes* by Mike Carter, NLG, in THE ESSAY-PROOF JOURNAL No. 15.
4. *Mystery Book Reveals Some Secrets* by Mike Carter, in THE ASYLUM, Summer 1984, a reprint of the above article.
5. *The United States Treasury Specimen Books* by Raphael Ellenbogen, in PAPER MONEY No. 171, May/June 1994.

We know how many "Fractional Currency Presentation Books" exist, thanks to the article by Martin Gengerke in *The A. N. A. Centennial Anthology*, where he indicates in his "census" that fourteen copies have presently been traced. There is no surviving census, however of "United States Treasury Specimen Books." A number of collectors have been contacted in an effort to provide some answers; hundreds of auction catalogues have been researched to provide information and provenance; books and periodicals have been consulted.

As of this writing, forty-seven books have been located, of which eighteen are presentation copies and nine are in oblong format. It is also inter-

esting to note that of the forty-seven known, one is in the A. N. A. Library, ten are in the library of one collector, eight in the library of another, five in the library of a third, four in the library of a fourth and three in the library of a fifth, leaving the balance of sixteen books distributed among others. Unfortunately, some collectors are reluctant to provide information on their holdings. Perhaps this article will stimulate and inspire them to contribute to the data acquired thus far. However, based on the theory of probability, and the random science of possibility, adding the quotient of guess-ability, we estimate that somewhere around one hundred or so examples have survived intact.

#### RELEVANCE TABLES

The following are signatories that may be found on the title pages of Specimen Books:

Truman N. Burrill	Chief of the Bureau	4/1/1883-5/19/1885
John G. Carlisle	Secretary of the Treasury	3/7/1893-3/5/1897
George W. Caslear	Chief Engraver of the Bureau	10/1/1862-10/30/1893
Charles J. Folger	Secretary of the Treasury	11/14/1881-9/4/1884
Charles Foster	Secretary of the Treasury	2/25/1891-3/6/1893
Henry C. French	Assistant Secretary of the Treasury	1877-1891
O. H. Irish	Chief of the Bureau	10/1/1878-1/27/1883
Henry C. Jewell	Chief of the Bureau	2/21/1876-4/30/1877
Claude M. Johnson	Chief of the Bureau	7/1/1893-6/30/1896
George B. McCartee	Director of the Bureau	7/1/1896-5/10/1900
William M. Meredith	Chief of the Bureau	3/18/1869-2/19/1876
Lot M. Morrill	Chief of the Bureau	7/1/1889-6/30/1893
Thomas F. Morris	Director of the Bureau	11/24/1900-6/30/1906
John G. New	Secretary of the Treasury	6/7/1876-3/9/1877
John S. Sherman	Chief Engraver of the Bureau	11/1/1893-6/30/1898
J. Kendrick Upton	Assistant Secretary of the Treasury	3/10/1877-3/3/1881
William Windom	Secretary of the Treasury	1877-1891
	Secretary of the Treasury	3/7/1889-1/29/1891

#### SOURCES

The following libraries and museums have been contacted regarding any U. S. Treasury Specimen Books in their holdings:

*American Numismatic Association, Colorado Springs, Colorado, Ms. Lynn Chen, Head Librarian: 1 book*

*American Numismatic Society, New York City, New York, Mr. Francis Campbell, Jr., Head Librarian: none.*

*Smithsonian Institution, Numismatic Division, Washington, D. C., Mr. Jim Hughes: none*  
*Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Washington, D. C., Ms. Celia Wertheimer: none.*

*Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.: claim they have none.*

*The Museum of American Financial History, New York City: none.*

With the exception of the A. N. A. Library, all records of Treasury Books are from private sources and individual collectors.

#	SIZE (INCHES)	OBLONG	COLOR OF LEATHER	P	V	INTER- LEAVED	FRONTS- PIECE	STP	SEAL COLOR	CON- DITION	RECIPIENT	APPROX. DATE	NOTES
1	9-1/4x7-7/8x2-1/2		Green	70	60	Bond	Indian	1,2	Red	XF	Erased from cover	1870	
2	9-1/4x7-7/8x2-7/8		Black	68	56	Tissue	Indian	1,2	Red	F/VF	Mrs. E. Pierrepont	1875	Missing: 3P, 10V, 1 P. loose
3	7-7/8x9-7/8x?	Yes	Brown	66	66	Tissue	Grant	?	?	F		1870	Rebacked, missing tissue
4	7-7/8x9-7/8x?	Yes	Black	63	57	Tissue	Grant	?	?	F		1870	
5	?	Yes	?	T=	123	?	?	?	?	F		1870	Missing 3 pages
6	9-1/4x7-7/8x2-1/2		Brown	72	66	Bond	Scene	1,2	Red	VF	James L. Claghorn	1875	Five loose, extra pages
7	9-1/4x8-1/4x2-1/8		Maroon	75	66	Tissue	Indian	1,2	Purple	F	John G. Moore	1875	Spine reattached
8	?	Yes	?	67	66	?	Grant	?	?	F			Front cover semi-detached
9	?		?	T=	110	?	?	?	?	?	Herbert R. Preston		Rebound, ex Smedley
10	7-1/2x9-3/4x2	Yes	Brown	60	43	Tissue	Grant	1,2	Red	VF	Hon. M. H. Carpenter	1875	One V in color (smokers)
11	7-7/8x6-3/4x1-3/4		Green	7	70	Tissue	None	3-6	Red	VF		1878	
12	8-3/4x6-7/8x?		Black	21	2	?	House	7,8,2,	?	VF		1881	Rebacked, title "Pres. of U.S."
13	7-7/8x5-7/8x1-3/8		Brown	51	--	Tissue	None	None	None	VF		1884	Title: "Port. Amer. Statesmen"
14	9-7/8x8x?		Black	20	?	?	?	?	?	VF	A. F. Rockwell	1881	
15	6x8x1-1/2	Yes	Brown	46	25	Tissue	None	None	None	Poor	John Lind	1891	"Engravings" on spine
16	?		?	41	?	?	?	?	?	?			Reed book, missing a few pages
17	8x6-1/2x2-3/4		Red	23	11	None	None	None	None	New		1896	"The Presidents of the US" Title

#	SIZE (INCHES)	OBLONG COLOR OF LEATHER	P	V	INTER- LEAVED	FRONTIS- PIECE	S/T/P	SEAL COLOR	COND- ITION	RECIPIENT	APPROX. DATE	NOTES		
18	8x6-3/4x1-1/4	Maroon	44	-	?	None	None	New	William P. Malburn	1917	Title: "Portraits," purple edges, eagles			
19	7-3/4x9-3/4x2	Yes	Black	61	60	Tissue	Grant	1,2,	Red	VF	1870	Rebacked, one page hae 3 V in a row		
20	9x7x2-7/8x?		Brown	139	76	Bond	B.E.P.	9,10 6,11	None	Poor	Mrs. Mary A. McElroy	1883	Needs rebinding;	
21	11-3/4x9-1/2x2-3/4	?	T=	118	?	B.E.P.	3,12,5	None	?	William A. Wheeler	1880	VP 1887-91, 1 page V on both sides		
22	7x9-3/4x?	?	Green	T=	132	?	?	?	F	Hon. J. A. Hubbell	1875	One page missing		
23	7-7/8x9-7/8x2-3/4	Yes	Green	56	72	Tissue	Grant	1,2	Red	F	Hon. E. W. Barbour	1870	18 blank pages with tissue guards	
24	9-3/4x8-1/8x2-3/4		Black	76	67	Tissue	Scene	1,2	Red	F/G	1870	Front joint breaking		
25	7-7/8x6-1/8x1-3/4		Brown	14	75	Tissue	Amer. & B.E.P.	17,8,2	None	VF	1889	Marked Vol. 2 on spine		
26	7-7/8x6-1/2x2		Brown	96	-	Tissue	Dec. Ind. & B.E.P.	18,13, 14	None	New	1896	Marked Vol. 1 on spine (of 3)		
27	7-7/8x6-1/2x2		Brown	96	-	Tissue	E. Plurib. & B.E.P.	18,13, 14	None	New	1896	Marked Vol. 2 on spine (of 3)		
28	7-7/8x6-1/2x2		Brown	--	99	Tissue	Cupids & B.E.P.	18,13, 14	None	New	1896	Marked Vol. 3 on spine (of 3)		
29	13-1/4x11x1-1/2		Navy	84	44	Tissue	Chms. Conant	15,16, 2	Red	VF	1876	In A. N. A. Library		
30	?	?	Green	T-	160	?	?	?	?	?	1880	Stack's sale		
31	- 9x11x?	?	Brown	126	76	Tissue	?	7,5,6,4	?	VF	James G. Blaine	1881	Many pages have 2 vign.	
32	9x8x?		Brown	70	76	Bond	?	1,2	Purple	VF	Mrs. I. F. Weller	1873		
33	9x8x?		Brown	70	68	Tissue	?	1,2	Red	F	J. T. Peacock	1870		

#	SIZE (INCHES)	OBLONG	COLOR OF LEATHER	P	V	INTER- LEAVED	FRONTS- PIECE	S/T/P	SEAL COLOR	CON- DITION	RECIPIENT	APPROX. DATE	NOTES
34	9-1/2x7-1/2		Green	44	66	Tissue	?	1,2	Black	VF		1870	Two pages removed
35	8x6x?		Brown	30	3	Tissue	Portrait	17,8,2	?	Good		1872	Title: "Pres. of US," spine damaged
36	8x6x?		Black	101	--	Tissue	Vignette	None	None	VF		?	Marked Vol. 1 (of 2), eagle on spine
37	8x6x?		Black	20	72	Tissue	?	None	None	VF		?	Marked Vol. 2 (of 2), eagle on spine
38	9x8x2-3/4		Burgundy	72	65	Bond	Indian	1,2	Red	VF		1870	One V in orange/red, 3/4 leather
39	8-1/2x6-3/4x2		Black	1	44	Tissue	None	15,2	?	Good		1876	Disbound, plates removed
40	9-1/2x8x2-1/2		Green	85	60	Bond	Indian	15,2	Red	VF		1876	Ex-Nevins Lib (NML-purple stamp)
41	9-1/2x8x2-1/4		Brown	76	65	Tissue	Indian	1,2	Red	Good	G. B. Williams	?	One V in color, 1 V on a tissue
42	9-1/8x8x2-1/4		Cloth	71	59	Bond	Indian	1,2	Green	VF		1876	Rebound, many plates missing (now disbound)
43	6x8x1	Yes	Black	43	--	Tissue	None	None	None	VF		1915	"Sect. of Treas."
44	8x9-1/4x2-1/2		Brown	79	64	Bond	Indian	1,2	Purple	VF	Capt. C. C. Adams	1875	Re-gilt edges, one purple Roman P.
45	6x8x1	Yes	Black	27	--	Tissue	None	None	None	VF		1820	"Pres. of U.S." on cover and spine
46	8x9-3/4x2-1/2		Black	77	65	None	Indian	1,2	Green	F/VF	C. C. Sniffin	1875	
47	6-1/4x7-3/4x2		Blue	65	37	Tissue	?	?	?	VF		?	Title: "Port and Eng. by B.E.P." on spine

## KEY

Leather: Mostly morocco, some calf	1. McCartee	10. New
V: Vignettes	2. Casilear	11. Burrill
P: Portraits	3. Sherman	12. Kendrick
New: As new	4. Upton	13. Johnson
Indian: Weeping Indian vignette	5. Irish	14. Morris
House: The White House	6. French	15. Jewell
Edges: All three edges gilt on almost all	7. Windom	16. Morrill
T=: Total of both portraits and vignettes	8. Meredith	17. Foster
STP: Signatories on title pages, as follows	9. Folger	18. Carlisle

Note: Question marks signify "Unknown." Some survey respondents did not complete are data requested in submission forms. Where owners of books were unknown, data was secured from sales catalogues which had, in most cases, incomplete information.

## SOME NOTES ON RECIPIENTS OF SPECIMEN BOOKS

Thus far, only a few biographies have been found on recipients of Treasury books. Many references were consulted, including *Who Was Who in America*, historical volumes, the N. Marquis Co.

*Mrs. E. Pierrepont:* Wife of Edwards Pierrepont, Attorney General from Connecticut. Born March 4, 1817, died March 6, 1892. Edwards was assistant attorney in the prosecution of Jhon H. Surrat, for complicity in the assassination of Abraham Lincoln in 1867. He was U. S. District Attorney 1869-1870. Mrs. Pierrepont was the former Margaretta Willoughby and was married on March 27, 1846.

*Matthew Hale Carpenter:* His full name was Decatur Merritt Hammond Carpenter and he was a Senator from Wisconsin 1869-1875 and 1879-1881. Carpenter represented Secretary of War Belknap in his impeachment trial. Born December 22, 1824, died February 24, 1881.

*William Alman Wheeler:* Vice-President of the United States under President Rutherford Hayes from 1877 to 1881. Earlier, he served as a member of the House of Representatives from New York, 1861-1863 and 1869-1877. Born June 30, 1819, died June 4, 1887.

*James Gillespie Blaine:* Served as a member of the House of Representatives from Maine, 1863-1876, became Speaker 1869-1875. He was Secretary of State under President Garfield in 1881 and was an unsuccessful candidate for President in 1884. Secretary of State under President Harrison, 1889-1892. Born January 31, 1830, died January 27, 1893.

*Herbert Rush Preston:* A lawyer, born January 24, 1861; died October 15, 1937.

## "COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU..."

The following individuals greatly assisted in the research and "tracking down" of the Treasury Specimen Books in this "census," and it is appreciated: Rich Brinton, Lynn Chen, Devid D. Gladfelter, John W. Jackson, George F. Kolbe, Paul Melnick, Eric P. Newman, John Parker, Michael Sullivan and John Wilson.

## Between the Covers Colonel Bill Murray, NLG

Happy as I am to be a member of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society, I am not a true bibliomaniac. I hope this confession doesn't get me black-listed. Recently, I was elected to your Board. One friend of mine said that everybody he voted for got elected. I suggested that he was the only one who voted, but, though related, that isn't the point of this dissertation.

My primary interest in books has little to do with bindings, endpapers or endleaves, cloth grains, half bound morocco, foxing, limited editions, vellum or all that stuff. My concern is with what is on the pages between the covers. So now I find myself an officer of an organization of bibliophiles whose interest may include what is between the covers, but also encompasses how the book was made, which imprint it represents, how many copies exist, et cetera et cetera. (Et Cetera=what you put down when you don't know what you're talking about).

Concerned that I might embarrass you-all with my lack of knowledge, I called his eminence (should I use capitals?) George, and if you don't know which George, you shouldn't be receiving this publication. "George," I said, "if I am to be an officer in NBS, perhaps I should know something about books in addition to what those words and pictures between the covers tell me."

George obliged and (it surprised my wife, Jeanne, not at all) I went to Barnes and Noble (that's a bookstore, for some of you who don't know), to see could I find what George recommended. I now own John Carter's *ABC for Book Collectors*, Seventh Edition, 1995, Revised by Nicolas Barker, 1997 reprint, Typeset in Bembo by Alacrity Phototypesetters, Banwell Castle, Weston-super-Mare, Avon. Printed in the United States of America by Rose Printing Company, Tallahassee, Florida, and the *Encyclopedia of the Book* by Geoffrey Ashall Glaister, Second Edition, with a new introduction by Donald Farren, printed in the United States of America on 70lb White Husky Smooth paper by Walsworth Publishing Company, Missouri. Colour section originated and printed on 150gsm Gloss Art by York House Graphics, London.

And that's what I know now. Give me time.

Oh, yes, there's a Starbuck's coffee outlet at Barnes and Noble. Their coffee is good, and that's something I do know about.

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### NBS Meeting at FUN

Fred Lake reports a meeting of NBS at the FUN show in Orlando, Florida on January 10, 1998. The attendees were Ray Ellenbogen, John Eshbach, Tom Hartz, Brad Karoleff, Fred Lake, Bill Murray, Dale Provost, Eugene Sternlicht, Rod Tagney, O. T. Thompson and Bob Yuell.

## The Foote Counterfeit Detector and Armand Champa

Michael J. Sullivan

Armand Champa will be remembered in numismatics for the astounding literature collection he formed, the extensive binding and conservation work he commissioned, and his willingness to provide researchers access to his collection. During a trip to Mr. Champa's home in 1993, I discovered a copy of a rare counterfeit detector by Henry C. Foote: *The Universal Counterfeit and Altered Bank Note Detector, at Sight* [Fourth Edition-Fifth Thousand, New York, 1853]. In addition to the book, Mr. Champa had correspondence with other bibliophiles regarding the book and tip-in plate. The material was loaned to the writer as a starting point on counterfeit detector research. The following is the first in a series of planned articles on counterfeit detector literature.

Counterfeiting of paper money was a rampant problem during the colonial currency, state bank note, and national bank note eras. A genre of material collectively referred to as "counterfeit detectors" emerged during the 19th century to protect businesses and individuals from abusive distribution of fraudulent money. Counterfeit detector literature can be divided into five major categories: Bank note lists and reporters; autographical detectors; descriptive lists; photographic detectors; and educational "methods" and "rules."

### BANK NOTE LISTS AND REPORTERS

Bank note lists and reporters first emerged in the 1810s as a means to list issued (genuine) banknotes and discount rates. As time progressed, the publications expanded to include lists of counterfeit and spurious banknotes. Bank note reporters typically arranged the information by state, bank, and banknote denomination. The text provides a list of banknotes and/or counterfeits after issuance and detection in circulation without illustrations. As such, these publications were very ineffective, post-distribution identification aids. The professional counterfeiter could select a bank and denomination, prepare counterfeit notes, travel to a different state, and distribute the notes with limited chance of being caught. William H. Dillistin's work *Bank Note Reporters and Counterfeit Detectors, 1826-1866* [NY: ANS, 1949] provides historical background of the firms and publications of this genre. Collectable titles include *Bicknell's Counterfeit Detector and Bank Note List* [Philadelphia, 1832-1857], *Clark's New-England Bank Note List and Counterfeit Bill Detector* [Boston, 1838-1845], John Thompson's *Bank Note & Commercial Reporter* [New York, 1848-1853], and *Connecticut Bank Note List and City of Hartford Monthly Advertiser* [Hartford, 1847-1860]. While individual issues appear in literature auctions occasionally, runs or complete sets are

prohibitively rare. The American Numismatic Society library houses one of the finest known collections of this material.

#### AUTOGRAPHICAL DETECTORS

Autographical detectors provide a compilation of bank office signatures as they appear on genuine bank notes. The concept was to detect counterfeits by comparing authentic signatures with those appearing on banknotes; a difficult approach even in today's high tech society. Only three autographical detectors were published, the most widely known of which is John Thompson's *The Autographical Counterfeit Detector* [New York, 1849-1853]. According to Dillistin, "While the facsimile signatures presented in this detector were of great value to those handling State bank notes who might question the genuineness of signatures appearing thereon, they were no doubt of inestimable value to the swindler and crook engaged in counterfeiting such notes." Autographical detectors are rare with only a few numismatic literature auction appearances cited for Thompson's. No sales records are known for Taylor's *Signature Examiner* or Charles & Leonori's (*Late Taylor's*) *Signature Examiner*.

#### DESCRIPTIVE LISTS

Descriptive lists provide a list of bank notes, their design elements, and layout. A bank or merchant receiving a note could compare the detailed listing to the note presented. The first work of this type is Dye's *Bank Note Plate Delineator* [1855]. J. Tyler Hodges copied Dye's format in *Hodges' New Bank Note Safe-Guard* [New York, 1857-1865]. Dillistin notes that "there can be no question that Hodges' publication was originally prepared from the identical plates used by Dye." John Gwynne and Clarence Day published *The Descriptive Register of Genuine Bank Notes* [New York: 1859-1866]. Undated supplements for Gwynne and Day's register were issued between editions of the book. The Gwynne and Day preface states it is "now very well understood by merchants and tradesmen in this country, that accurate descriptions of all genuine bank notes are indispensable as a means of detecting spurious and altered or raised bills."

John Thompson issued the *Bank Note Descriptive List* [New York, 1859-1867]. Other minor descriptive list publications were emitted in Chicago, Cincinnati, Detroit, New York, and St. Louis. Of note are two publications from Pittsburgh. The first entitled *Description of Genuine Bank Notes* published by the Kennedy Review Office [1857], employed a distinctly similar format to Gwynne & Day. The other published by Kennedy and Brother of Pittsburgh is the sole counterfeit detector discovered printed in German entitled *Kennedy's Fac Simile, Ein Supplement Zu Ihrem Vereinigte Staaten Banknoten Kenner* [c1853]. Descriptive list material is rarely available for sale.

### PHOTOGRAPHIC DETECTOR

*Naramore's United States Treasury and National Bank Note Detector* [Bridgeport, CT, 1866] is the single photographic counterfeit detector. The work consists of 18 individual photographs: U.S. Notes (\$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100, \$500, and \$1000) and National Bank Notes (\$1 Pittsburgh National Bank of Commerce, \$2 Washington National Bank of Boston, \$5 National Union Bank of Swanton, Vermont, \$10 Second National Bank of Sandusky, Ohio, \$20 New York National Exchange Bank, \$50 New York National Exchange Bank, \$100 New York National Exchange Bank, \$500 Manufacturers National Bank of Philadelphia, and \$1000 Fourth National Bank of City of New York). The 18 photographic images of unsigned proof sheets were issued in four formats: Individual 10 x 6.3 cm. cards issued in a printed cardboard box; individual cards mounted on heavy stock issued in a morocco pouch; a single sheet with the photographs arranged 3 x 6; and a single sheet with a brass eyelet for hanging. According to Charles Davis, this represents the earliest use of photographic technology in numismatic literature. The Naramore work was issued sans text, greatly limiting its usefulness. The morocco pouch and full sheet Naramore versions are prohibitively rare. The version of 18 cards can be secured occasionally, but almost always lacks the cardboard box. Most cardboard boxes seen are in a poor state of preservation often lacking the top and bottom flaps. For an extensive illustrated history of the Naramore work, see Raphael Ellenbogen's article "The Celebrated Naramore Bank Note Detector Cards" (*Paper Money*, Jan./Feb. 1997).

### EDUCATIONAL "METHODS" AND "RULES"

The exhaustive variety of banknotes in circulation during the Wildcat Banking, Treasury Note, Greenback, and National Bank Note eras challenged bankers, merchants, and consumers to continuously check banknotes presented in payment for authenticity. Bank note lists and reporters, autographical counterfeit detectors, descriptive lists, and the photographic detector were all employed by individuals to protect themselves. However, numerous people were swindled, cheated, lied to, and taken advantage of due to the complexity and expansiveness of counterfeiting. To combat this chilling commerce risk, a fifth type of counterfeit detectors emerged to educate individuals by providing methods and/or rules to identify counterfeits. The theory was that possession of knowledge regarding the engraving, layout, and printing processes for both genuine and counterfeit notes would enable individuals to determine if a note was counterfeit upon visual examination.

The first work in this category is *Perkins Bank Bill Test* [Newburyport, MA, 1809]. The publication provides a working knowledge of his pat-

ented Permanent Steel Plate and Stereotype Steel Plate engraving processes and methods to check for genuine notes. Perkins' processes provided the basis for the transfer press used by subsequent engravers. He received the support of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to implement his approach as evidenced by the following proclamation: "no bills of the denomination of One, Two, Three, Four, and Five Dollars, shall be issued or emitted by the President, Directors, and company of any Bank incorporated under the authority of the Legislature of this Commonwealth, unless the said bills shall be printed and impressed from Stereotype Steel Plates."

W. L. Ormsby's *Description of the Present System of Engraving* [New York, 1852] provides a detailed understanding of the banknote development process from engraving through printing. Ormsby concludes multiple element bank note designs contribute to counterfeiting. He recommends use of large central vignettes as a means to deter counterfeiting. Ormsby's work is the most lavish of all counterfeit detectors including 12 finely engraved plates bound in a large quarto format.

The period from 1859-1889 is the richest era of counterfeit detector publications. The works are well written, most include steel plate engravings, most were hardbound, and several were widely distributed and available in the market place today. Publications include A. S. Gear's *The United States Bank Note Detecter, at Sight* [Nashua, NH, 1859], *Eastman's Treatise on Counterfeit, Altered and Spurious Bank Notes, with Unerring Rules for the Detection of Frauds in the Same* [St. Louis, 1859 and Poughkeepsie, 1865], G. Peyton's *How to Detect Counterfeit Bank Notes* [New York, 1861], *Heath's Infallible Counterfeit Detector* [Names Vary - Boston, 1864-1889], and A. S. Gear's *The National Bank Note Detecter, At Sight* [New Haven, Conn., 1868]. Common to all of these publications is division of the text into "rules" for detecting counterfeits. For example, Eastman's 1859 work is divided into 10 principal rules: Geometrical lathe work; parallel ruling (ruling engine); medallion ruling or engraving; perspective (appearance); vignettes; printing; lettering; ink; engraver's imprint; and signatures.

Use of lavish steel plate engravings can be found in Peyton's (four plates by Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson), Heath's (numerous plates by the American Bank Note Company, National Bank Note Company, and U. S. Treasury Department), and Wilber & Eastman's books (four plates by the New York Bank Note Company). The publications typically include visual examples of the rules outlined in the text so the ardent student can develop an understanding of the key concepts. Due to the steel plate engravings, these works are popularly collected by bibliophiles and syngraphists. A premium price is paid for plates without foxing, the Heath counterfeit plates, and bindings in tight, very fine condition. Fortunately for the collector, this genre of counterfeit detectors is the most widely available.

### THE FOOTE COUNTERFEIT DETECTOR

Henry C. Foote is credited with publishing the first counterfeit detector divided into "rules" and titled *The Universal Counterfeit Bank Note Detector at Sight* [1849], retitled the *Universal Counterfeit and Altered Bank Note Detector at Sight* [New York, 1851-1853]. It provides a format employed by other education method and rule counterfeit detectors mentioned above, such as those by A. S. Gear and Laban Heath. Unique to this publication is a dropped-in sample steel-plate engraved bank note facsimile titled "Universal Counterfeit Detector" engraved by J. Clark, N. Y. The note includes examples of geometric lathe, ruling engine, medallions, vignettes, lettering, and signatures numbered 1-6 in the format of a sample note. The various design elements on the bank note are numbered corresponding with "rules" in the text. Since the sample bank note is larger than the book, it is typically folded and dropped into the book.

The book starts with testimonials from bankers and quotations from various publications supporting that it "contains much important information for the detection of counterfeit paper-money." The work is divided into seven rules: Geometric Lathe; ruling engine (letter shading); medallions; vignettes; lettering and engravers' names; signatures and filling-up; and paper printing and general appearance. It also includes a discussion on altered and raised notes. Foote's use of testimonials and rules provided the framework for subsequent authors including Gear, Eastman, and Heath. The following four editions of the book were published:

#### FIRST EDITION, 1849

"Foote, H. C. *The Universal Counterfeit Bank Note Detector at Sight, A System of Infallible Detection, applicable to all Modern Plates of all banks in the U.S.* 1849. 20 pp. Illustrated. Plus a note issued by the company with denomination 3-3 and 20-20 folded in. Beautiful binding with gold lettering. Size 3 x 4 3/4. A little gem. Not in any Bibliographies. Undoubtedly UNIQUE. est. \$50."

Katen: *George J. Fuld Numismatic Library Part 1: 798 {8/1971}*, \$60.

#### SECOND EDITION-THIRD THOUSAND, 1850

Foote, H. C. *Universal Counterfeit and Altered Bank Note Detector, at Sight: A System of Infallible Detection at sight, applicable to all Banks in the United States, now in circulation, or hereafter issued. Complete in Seven Rules, with Thirteen Diagrams and Seventeen Illustrations on Steel, For Self Instruction.* Arranged and Improved by H. C. Foote, New-York. Second Edition. Third Thousand. New York: Oliver & Brother, Book and Job Printers, 99 Nassau Street, corner of Fulton, 1850.

This edition is reprinted in *Essay-Proof Journal #167 and 167, 1985*. Included is a photograph of the steel engraved bank note facsimile titled "Universal Counterfeit Detector Applicable to all Banks in the United States by H. C. Foote." No sales records are known.

*THIRD EDITION-FOURTH THOUSAND, 1851*

Foote, H(enry) C. *Universal Counterfeit and Altered Bank Note Detector at Sight: A System of Infallible Detection at Sight, Applicable to all Banks in the United States, now in circulation, or hereafter issued. Complete in Seven Rules: Diagrams and Illustrations on Steel for Self-Instruction.* New-York: Oliver & Brother, Book and Job Printers, 1851. Third Edition-Fourth Thousand. xi, (1), (13)-36 pp. 14 text engravings of bank note design elements, folding steel-engraved bank note facsimile tipped into the inside front cover. Small 12 mo: 138 x 92 mm. Original paper-backed brown cloth covers, title "Foote's Bank Note Detector at Sight" stamped in gilt on the front cover.

Ex-libris: D.O. Barrett, Tulsa, OK with his book-plate. Sold via Boys Town Library to Orville Grady, then sold to Eric Newman.

Mr. Newman offered it to Wayne Homren. Mr. Homren declined the opportunity, but suggested it be offered to M. J. Sullivan who acquired it 8/92. The plate matches the photograph in *Essay-Proof Journal* #167, the Steig-Champa plate (see 4th ed., 5th thous.), and the Horstman plate (see 4th ed., 5th thous.).

*FOURTH EDITION-FIFTH THOUSAND, 1853*

"Foote, H(enry) C. *The Universal Counterfeit and Altered Bank Note Detector, at Sight: A System of Infallible Detection at Sight, Applicable to all Banks in the United States, now in circulation, or hereafter issued. Complete in Seven Rules: with Diagrams and Illustrations on Steel, for Self-Instruction.* New York: Mann & Spear, Printers and Stationers. 133 Pearl Street, 1853. Fourth Edition-Fifth Thousand. 36 pp. 14 text engravings of bank note design elements, folding steel-engraved bank note facsimile tipped into the inside front cover. Small 12 mo: 138 x 96 mm. Original paper-backed brown cloth covers, title stamped in gilt on the upper cover."

"The design elements of the facsimile bank note, printed by J. Clark of New York, are keyed to the author's seven rules and 'contain standard specimens of all the different styles of engraving of the notes of all the Banks in the United States.' The Foote work is one of the earliest of the genre and many of his innovations were widely imitated by later publications. By 1853 the work had grown to nearly double the size of the 1849 first edition."

Kolbe: *Catalogue of an Exhibition of "Numismatic Americana" comprising Books, Periodicals, Sale Catalogues & Memorabilia from the Library and Collections of ARMAND CHAMPA.* Crestline, 1991. Item #22.

## SALES RECORDS:

1. Bowers & Ruddy Galleries, Inc. *The Michael Steig Collection:* 2142 {9/1982}, \$88. Sold via John Bergman to Armand Champa. Subsequently sold as Bowers & Merena: *The Armand Champa Library Sale Part I:* 232 {11/1994}, \$467.50.
2. Davis: *Fixed Price List Number 17, Numismatic Literature:* 1239 {10/1988}, \$50. This copy did not include a plate. Purchased by Ron Horstman who matched it with a Foote plate already in his possession.
3. Kolbe: *Selections from the American Numismatic Library of John Weston Adams:* 412 {6/1990}, \$467.50.

With a mere five copies having recorded sales records in 26 years, the Foote is a scarce and desirable counterfeit detector despite the use of "Fifth

Thousand" on the title page. If you ever locate a Foote, jump on it! The author will remember Armand Champa for the contribution he made to numismatic literature research. In particular, the contribution he made to initiative interest in collecting and researching counterfeit detector literature. Counterfeit detectors offer the collector a wonderful combination of variety, scarcity, visual graphics, and direct linkage to other syngraphic collectibles to enjoy. The serious collector will have to be patient in acquiring a broad range of counterfeit detector types, titles, and varieties, given their true rarity.

#### SOURCES

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Sullivan, Michael J. *Bank Note Reporters and Counterfeit Detectors, 1841-1912: An Annotated Bibliography of Original Works in the M.J. Sullivan Collection*. Cincinnati, 1997.

## Some Letters by Edward Hawkins

### M. Lesser

Reprinted from the *Spink Numismatic Circular*, May 1997, with permission from the editor and author

In a large paper copy of Hawkins' 1841 English Silver Coins, imprinted 'NOT PUBLISHED' as they all are, and which he presented to George Marshall, are three interesting letters from the author. The book was in the Kolbe/Spink Numismatic Book Auction, NY, 7 Dec 1996 (407). George Marshall (1794-1855) was a numismatic writer and collector, whose auction sale was in 1852, but he was a member of the Numismatic Society of London only from 1838-46. The letters are as follows, with editorial comments in [square brackets]:

#### 1. "My dear Sir

I have been most sadly remiss in not sooner acknowledging your kindness in allowing [me] to possess the small coins you were kind enough to send me. I am in truth just now more occupied than is convenient and consequently things go undone that ought not to be lost sight of. There is more to do than usual in the Mus. and I have commenced arranging various things of my own which had so accumulated that it was necessary to introduce some order into them and this has occupied more time than I calculated upon. Besides all this I have a work in the press upon the silver money of England so that I [have] much to do with printers and engravers which will not admit of delay, and I do not see much prospect of relief; it will be some time before this work is fairly done with, and I suppose after that I shall scarcely be quiet without doing something of the same kind with the gold and copper. Akerman has just published the new and extended edition of his Numismatic Manual which is a very pretty book and will I think be a great help and an encouragement to young collectors, and there is some appearance of an increase of such persons; the sale lists furnish a supply of new names and the Numismatic Society with the Journal have been of much use, they have given a taste for such things by making collectors a little more known to each other, and people are induced to attend to and study that which they find interests other people. We are in great want however of some new coins or medals. I have not seen any Birmingham productions for a very long time, and Wyon at the Mint has been so much occupied in preparing plate punches for the Goldsmiths Company and stamps for the Post Office, and the Mint Master is so totally indifferent about Mint affairs that the coinage seems at a standstill and I am afraid that Wyons medal of

Prince Albert for the model of which he has had a few sittings is not making such rapid progress as I should wish. The great discovery in Lancashire [Cuerdale] consists of pieces of too early a date to interest you particularly. I expect we shall collect some interesting information respecting the coinage of Alfred and contemporary princes, and I hope the whole mass of Treasure will come into my hands for examination at least before it becomes dispersed amongst those who have no more than a temporary and short lived interest in such things [in fact he was able to study the hoard, at least what he knew of it, read it before the Numismatic Society late in 1841, and publish it in the Numismatic Chronicle].

I must now conclude my numismatic gossip and subscribe myself.

Yours very truly

20 June 1840

Edw Hawkins"

## 2. "Dear Sir

Your letter did not come to my hands on Saturday until it was too late to answer it. I would otherwise have assured you of the safety of your coins which I will now keep for an opportunity of more safe conveyance than the Post appears to be at present. My work upon the silver coins of England is now compleated and printed, and in a few days will I hope have put on its coat that it may be ready to march forth into the world. I shall beg your acceptance of a copy and will thank you to let me know how it may be conveyed to you. It is rather a large octavo volume. It will of course not be an entertaining volume, but it will be I hope be so useful that even a young collector may not do without it, and the demand will therefore I hope be such as to save the publisher [Edward Lumley] from loss for it is all at his risk.

Believe me

St Davids Day [1 March]

My dear Sir

1841

Yours very truly

Edw Hawkins"

## 3. "Dear Sir,

I beg your acceptance of the Volume on the Silver Coins of England. A few copies were struck off upon large paper less to gratify collectors of such sort of works, than to enable intelligent numismatists to record their remarks and corrections.

I remain

BM.

Dear Sir

18 March 1841.

Yours very truly

Edw Hawkins"



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2) **Castenholz and Sons Numismatic Booksellers:** *The Numismatic Messenger*. Pacific Palisades, California. Complete set: Vol. 1, No. 1 through Vol. 2, No. 11/12 (Jan. 1971 through Dec. 1972). 24 numbers in 23 issues. Octavo, card covers. A quality publication offering authoritative articles, coins for sale, and their specialty, new and second-hand books. We have sold these in the past for \$40-50. We have purchased the entire remaining hoard and can offer as new complete sets for \$30. We have a very few sets, in a single red cloth volume, priced at \$50. Prices include postage in the U.S.; outside the U.S. add \$5.

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# THE ASYLUM

*Quarterly Journal of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society*

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Volume XVI, No. 2

Spring, 1998

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## CONTENTS

President's Message & Membership Report Michael Sullivan & David Hirt . . . . .	2
Harry Wesley Bass, Junior: A Tribute to a Great Numismatist Ed Deane . . . . .	3
Harry W. Bass, Jr.: A Remembrance Francis D. Campbell, Jr. . . . .	9
Ken Lowe: Amateur of Numismatic Literature Joel J. Orosz . . . . .	11
A Friend I Barely Knew Harold Welch . . . . .	13
NBS Meeting: Cincinnati ANA Mid-Winter Convention . . . .	14
Some Random Numismatic Reminiscences - Part 1 Randolph Zander . . . . .	16
The First Photographically Illustrated Auction Catalogue George F. Kolbe . . . . .	25
Researching a Story William A. Burd . . . . .	26
New: NBS Internet Web Site <a href="http://www.money.org/club_nbs.html">http://www.money.org/club_nbs.html</a> . . . . .	27
The Printer's Devil Joel J. Orosz . . . . .	28
The Development of the Coin Album - Part Two David W. Lange . . . . .	33

“Books, dear books,  
Have been, and are my comforts, morn and night,  
Adversity, prosperity, at home,  
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The same firm friends; the same refreshments rich,  
And sources of consolation.”

*William Dodd ~ 1729-1777*

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**N. B. S. Membership:** \$15.00 annual dues in North America, \$20.00 elsewhere. Members receive all issues of the current volume. Requests for membership should be submitted to the Secretary-Treasurer.

## *President's Message*

My prior "President's Messages" have been filled with positive, upbeat news about our hobby and club. While great things are happening within NBS which I'll get to shortly, it is probably appropriate to start with the sad news; the death of Ken Lowe. Ken Lowe's sudden and unexpected passing was a shock to bibliophiles across the country. I received numerous phone calls and e-mails from concerned NBS members. As most bibliophiles know, Ken was a partner in The Money Tree; auctioneers of numismatic literature. My personal relationship with Ken extends back to 1984 when I responded to an ad in *Coin World* seeking consignors for The Money Tree's first mail bid sale. My initial consignment started a long-term relationship with The Money Tree resulting in several consignments to their first ten sales. Ken should be given credit and recognized as being committed to providing extensive auction lot catalog descriptions and as a writer. A gregarious man, Ken was always willing to discuss the "current news of the day" in numismatics. It was rare for a phone conversation between Ken and me to last less than an hour as he was always brimming with intriguing hobby information. Ken Lowe will be missed by the numismatic literature fraternity. Best wishes to Darryl and Myron Xenos who have suffered the loss of a dear friend.

### LOOK AHEAD TO PORTLAND!

NBS will be holding a combination club meeting and educational forum at the Portland ANA Convention. The meeting will be held on Friday, August 7th, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. We are still seeking speakers. If you have a topic to discuss, even for just 15 minutes, please contact Michael Sullivan.

### NBS WRITER'S AWARD BALLOT

Inserted with this issue of *The Asylum* is the first NBS Writer's Award Ballot. Please take the time to complete the ballot and return it prior to the deadline. Your vote counts! The award recipient will be announced at the NBS meetings during the ANA Convention in Portland. The ballot process is simple; just pick your three favorite articles from volume 15 and check the boxes. Ballots should be returned to Dave Hirt, Secretary-Treasurer.

See You in Portland!

## *Membership Report*

NBS welcomes six new members: John Brew, Robert Cochran, Richard G. Dockter, Samuel Warshauer, Christopher Welch and Wendell Wolka. Sadly, three longtime members have died in recent months: Harry W. Bass, Jr., Kenneth M. Lowe and Raymond H. Williamson.

## Harry Wesley Bass, Junior A Tribute to a Great Numismatist By Ed Deane

Harry Bass was one of the most interesting, remarkable, unique and complex individuals I have ever known.

Extraordinary in his own varied life, he touched others in many different walks of life. People upon first meeting him personally were sometimes surprised by his booming voice, his quick and subtle wit, and his wide range of interests and expertise in so many of them. He had a very direct manner in dealing with things, and then letting you know when he was done with that subject, and moving on to something else. Everyone who knew Harry personally will have their own stories of their experiences with him; he was not a man you soon forget. I only knew him the last eight years of his life, but in his employ I did have the opportunity to work with him on a daily basis in working on the projects of the Harry Bass Research Foundation during that time. And I want to give tribute to what I came to know of the man, as during those years we became "the best of friends."

Harry had a very high personal moral code. He was what I would call a "Boy Scout" – he was exceedingly honest, forthright, principled and personally loyal. He held himself to the same high standards of all those he had working with him.

He was exceedingly honest, not only in his sense of right and wrong, but also in his desire to "call a spade a spade" – he did not like "sugar-coated" things, or the use of euphemisms – he much preferred the plain unvarnished truth, warts and all.

He was intensely loyal to those people, causes and ideas that he cared about; he was never "luke-warm" in his judgments. When he considered, deliberated and then embarked on a project, he had already taken into account all that could go wrong as well as right. And once begun, he continued to press forward in spite of any obstacle that might present itself. The unexpected problems that were always appearing over the horizon to complicate matters of progress never discouraged or defeated him – the difficulties only made him more determined to work things through, to seek out and expeditiously bring about the solution.

Leadership went with many of the roles he played throughout his life; he took it in stride, and made the tough executive decisions he needed to make. Harry never shied away from the proper use of power, though he

was always careful to use it judiciously. As an executive and a decision-maker, he always wanted to have ALL the facts before him, so he often waited until the last strategic moment before making the required decision. He knew the “buck stopped here.” And once he made his decision, there was no second-guessing its correctness – he had clearly in mind all his reasons for his choice, and he was willing to back it up.

He was a careful guardian and good manager of all that he had been blessed with in life – his time, energies, financial resources, intellect, and his creative genius. Because of his failing health in later years, he knew he didn’t have forever to get things done. So he managed to keep very focused on those things that mattered greatly to him.

Harry had a unique sense of history and of his own place in it. More than almost anyone I know, he possessed the ability to relate to and interact with the Past, Present and Future, all at the same time.

He loved the Past; he felt that people could learn much from the past – much that they miss in today’s transient and hurried life style. He had a great appreciation for old things and their quality of workmanship, whether of mind or muscle. And he collected things from the past – from oriental rugs, knives, and objects of art, rare books to numismatics. He loved the interesting and unusual. He wanted whatever he collected to be the most complete, the best collection that could be done, in order to build “world-class” reference collections, whatever the area of interest.

But more than just loving and collecting them, he wanted to know about them – ALL about them. And so beyond his formal education, he taught himself throughout his lifetime – he educated himself about all sorts of things, and so became recognized as an authority in several fields.

Harry loved books; he had “numismatic bibliomania” in the worst way. He was forever looking for the newest, the oldest, the most obscure, the most controversial ... books of every form and description. Though I computerized a database of over 10,000 numismatic books, pamphlets and catalogs before he died, I have yet to complete the full database project, because he had probably another 5,000-6,000 books (some rare or ancient, some not) on other subjects which I have yet to get to. In addition to numismatics, he had a particular interest in the Civil War period, and the early 20th century, the classics, Greek and Roman history, contemporary culture, politics, and the list goes on and on. Harry was a voracious reader, and often “consumed” two or three books in a night (as well as three daily newspapers, weekly and monthly magazines, etc.). When others were sleeping, he was often reading or working at the computer as a result of his reading.

Harry's dream for his library collection (as in all other areas) was to build a "reference library" concerning those things he had a particular interest in. He wanted to assemble in his own home the most complete library available, with the best from the past and present. But more than just collect it, he wanted the information – the knowledge, the insight and judgment in his head that this information could bring.

Harry was always very much in touch with the present, and with his many investments and business dealings, and he examined them daily, both in their broadest scope and in their smallest detail. But business interests alone were not enough to occupy all of his creative energies.

He had a voracious appetite for new information; he subscribed to numerous magazines, three daily papers, and constantly read books on a wide variety of interests. There were no bounds to his intellectual inquiry, for he was equally adapt at seeing the "big picture" and the "smallest detail."

He loved words and the many nuances of the English language. He always kept a dictionary at arm's length, even when he was on oxygen in a hospital bed at home. He was bored by all but the most difficult crossword puzzles in the New York Times. He loved to discuss the meaning and nuances of words, and whether he was using the correct word in just the right way. And the rules for punctuation, grammar and such – he would critique and edit most of the things he received from others, always highlighting things with his famous "pink pen" highlighter. You always knew what Harry had been reading, because more than half of the information was now highlighted in pink!

Harry had a Passion for life, and he wanted to live it to the fullest. You could see it in his many interests through the decades of his life: his leadership in Republican Politics, his athletic interests (he was an avid golfer, hunter, and skier in his younger days), and his many trips around the globe, and his wide variety of business interests through the years.

He found many ways to engage his ever-inquisitive mind, and his insatiable quest for knowledge. He would often work through the night because he was engrossed and swept up in some project he was working on. At regional computer shows, he would be 20-30 years the senior of most others there but that never slowed him down from asking questions and finding out what he wanted to know.

He was very task oriented – from one day to the next most of the time, he would totally revise my plans for the new day's work. I would go ready to pursue yesterday's project; yet halfway expecting he would have a new and different plan for the day, having been up through the night "noodling" new alternatives.

Harry was passionate about the future. In his lifetime he set in motion a number of projects that stretch well into the next century, long after he knew that he would be gone from this earth. But he believed in them so much that he made sure that they would come to pass by concept, organization and funding, even if he would not personally get to see them to their completion.

The creation of the Harry Bass Research Foundation was part of this dream, to make it possible for future generations to study and enjoy the fruits of his labors, and to share his numismatic work around the world through its publication on the Internet.

He determined several years ago that he would leave a lasting legacy to the world of numismatics, and the Internet World Wide Web would provide the vehicle to share that wealth of information, not only of his own work and study on his U. S. Federal gold coin collection, but through his continuing relationship with the American Numismatic Society, to cooperate in making their vast resources available. That dream is rapidly becoming a reality.

Harry was a Renaissance man. In the sense of "rebirth," "revival." He saw things in a new way, and he was continually giving birth to new, cutting-edge ideas.

He had his own timeline. It mattered not whether it matched anyone else's sense of timing or not. It was almost as if he had a sixth sense about the time that he had left to accomplish things of importance to him. He carefully measured and monitored his own energies, resources and support and gave fully to the task at hand.

He loved a challenge, particularly if it had never been done before. It could not be too big or too complex, if he deemed it worthwhile. He chose to put his considerable energies, financial resources and personal efforts into carefully chosen projects where he could make a decisive difference, not only for his own lifetime, but to succeeding generations.

Harry had been fascinated with computers for two decades, having worked with them to organize his own collections in database form as soon as they were commercially available in the early 1980s. As computers became more powerful, his vision of their potential empowered his own work in numismatics. In December of 1991 he created the Harry Bass Research Foundation (HBRF) to hold together in perpetuity his reference collection of U. S. Federal Gold coinage, which he had perfected over 30 plus years, and to make it available in the future for numismatic study and research. As the Internet emerged in the last few years, he envisioned sharing his

collection with numismatists around the world via the World Wide Web. Although he had already placed over 800 items of gold coins, patterns and U. S. Large currency in the Research Foundation since 1991, upon his death the remainder of his large collection has also become part of the HBRF holdings. He envisioned all of these thousands of items not only described, but also pictured on the Web, for numismatists everywhere. (And this will happen as soon as we can complete a project of this magnitude, which may be several years).

In addition to the concept of his own reference collection, Harry wanted to encompass ALL numismatic information to be "Internet-available," if not in "full-text" version (an impossible task, between its scope and copyright restrictions), then at least in "searchable-index" version. To this end, he first set out to create an index of significant numismatic periodicals over the last 100 plus years, which the Research Foundation calls "NIP" for "Numismatic Indexes Project", and currently includes over 76,000 entries in a searchable listing of fifteen of the important numismatic periodicals published in English since the Civil War. Though we can't provide full text of these periodicals, this for the first time ever does allow collectors and numismatists to know what has been written in the last century about their particular interests.

Broadening that concept to an international numismatic level, Harry then launched (and personally paid for) "Phase Two" – to electronically index the complete text of "Numismatic Literature," which the American Numismatic Society has published for the last fifty plus years (since 1947) of all numismatic publications around the world, with full text citations and abstracts (in most cases). The sheer volume of this series in semi-annual bound issues made it very difficult to find the resources, even when you knew that something had to be written on a particular numismatic subject.

Though not yet finished, (a project of scanning, correcting and mounting 139 issues of some 600 pages in each issue), under the sponsorship of HBRF, we hope to complete this entry of "NumLit" and presentation on the Web about the turn of the new century. Our work is being posted as each issue is completed, and currently more than the last decade (as well as some of the early years) is currently available to search at <http://search.hbrf.org/resmenu.htm>.

Harry was 10-20 years ahead of his time. For the last several years he was constantly thinking and visioning about the 21st century, seeing the possibilities in just-emerging technologies and ideas. The dissemination of

information by computers on the World Wide Web fascinated him, and he wanted to utilize the potential of the Web for numismatic education, since this new avenue had never before been possible on a worldwide scale.

As one of the ex-presidents of the American Numismatic Society in New York City, though he could no longer travel, he still remained on their Council until his death to provide his leadership input by conference phone hookup.

One of his dreams for the ANS was to "reconceive the ANS for the next century," giving the whole world access to its treasure of resources via the Internet and in touch with members and curators through email. He not only conceived it and convinced the Council of its wisdom and validity, but also supplied the hardware, the software, the manpower and the funding to make it happen.

Almost single-handedly, Harry has provided the host site for the ANS Internet presence, and created the Web interface for the presentation and search capability of the ANS databases of the ANS Coin Cabinet, representing over a half-million coin entries, for the world to benefit by.

His latest effort was the conceiving, planning and execution (and paying for) the ANS Library Project: having the entire card catalog of the ANS Library entered into electronic form for the first time ever. Until now, there was no way for persons around the world to know everything that had been written on a given numismatic subject. Later this year (probably by September) the entire ANS Library card file of some 140,000 entries will be electronically available for searching via the Internet. He believed deeply in having this information available for numismatists everywhere "from this time forth;" in fact, he was examining the "first returns" of the card input on Friday, April 3, in his hospital bed the day before he died. And he was giving instructions to the last, having trained me to carry on his wishes after he was gone. He was a faithful steward of all that was entrusted to him.

And so his dreams and life's work will be carried forward into the coming century through the Harry Bass Research Foundation, which is dedicated to serving numismatics around the world in the years to come. In this one man's lifetime, he has been able to envision and bring together all of the significant resources of numismatic study and research of centuries, as well as to create a world class U. S. Federal Gold reference collection for study and research, for the benefit of all numismatists everywhere from this time forward. He will be remembered as one of the great numismatists of this century. As I said in the beginning, Harry Bass was truly a remarkable man; I am honored to also have called him my friend.

## Harry W. Bass, Jr.: A Remembrance

By Francis D. Campbell, Librarian  
American Numismatic Society

When Harry W. Bass, Jr. first visited the American Numismatic Society in 1966, little did I know what an influence he was to have on my career at the Society and on me personally. At the time, Geoffrey H. North was the Society's Librarian and I was his assistant. Harry took an immediate interest in the Library, revealing his personal love of numismatic literature. Before long, Harry's name was appearing in Geoff North's annual reports, wherein he was acknowledged for his generous support of the library's binding program. I can still recall Harry's concern for some 33 manuscript volumes of the Edgar H. Adams "Notebooks," which he arranged to have specially bound in 1967. His support of the binding program continued through the 1960s and into the 1970s. In 1968, Harry became a member of the Standing Committee on the Library. He would later (1980) become Chairman of the committee, a position which he held until his passing. As Assistant Librarian my direct involvement with Harry was somewhat limited. However, during his visits to the Society he always made it a point to chat briefly with all staff members, showing a true interest in their work.

In 1970, while I was still attending library school, I was fortunate enough to win an award which offered an all-expenses paid trip to the American Library Association Convention, which that year happened to be held in Dallas. As soon as Harry heard I was heading his way, he extended a warm invitation to visit his home and inspect his library. He called his library the "Sanctum Sanctorum," and it was quite a treat for a then young librarian to be given a personal tour by Harry himself. The year following my trip to Dallas, Harry established the Bass Library Fund, the income from which has been used ever since for library acquisitions. While not the library's only restricted fund, it has become - owing to Harry's subsequent contributions to principal - the major library fund. During the same year, Harry funded the renovation of what had been a library workroom, turning it into a presentable reading area with adjustable steel shelving around its perimeter. Since that time, this room has been called the "Bass Room," and has housed our growing collection of non-numismatic periodicals.

In 1975, upon Geoffrey North's retirement, I became Librarian of the Society. In January of that year, prior to my official assumption of duties, Harry wrote to me expressing his confidence in me and indicating he would be available to provide "whatever assistance" he might in the years that lie ahead. When I review the events that have transpired since receiving that

letter, I can say without hesitation that Harry Bass was a man of his word. In the years prior to 1978, when he became the Society's president, he had placed the library on sound financial footing. After he assumed the presidency, he seemed to focus more on enhancing the quality of library operations by funding expansion of computerization to include library applications, and providing for improvements in the library's physical plant. In 1983, through the Harry Bass Foundation, he funded the initial software development for a library ordering, accessioning, and cataloging system. He also funded the installation of moveable shelving in the West Room of the Library. With this installation, the library was able to segregate rare materials, removing them from the open stacks, and thereby securing them.

When Harry relinquished the presidency of the Society in 1984, he seemed to begin a new phase in his support of the library. Still a member of the Society's governing Council, he now focussed more on building the library's endowment, funding purchase of rare materials, and the completion of library computerization. During the latter half of the 1980s and into the 1990s, the Harry Bass Foundation made substantial contributions to the library's endowment. In 1990, Harry began his support of special acquisitions with a sizable donation toward the purchase of items from the John W. Adams library. This acquisition included manuscript inventories of collections and research notes, but consisted mainly of original correspondence among the principal authorities on United States Large Cents who, during the first half of this century, established many of the die varieties and pedigrees accepted today. The names represented were Howard Newcomb, George H. Clapp, William H. Sheldon, Homer K. Downing, and Henry Clay Hines. At the George Kolbe sale of December 8, 1991, Harry, along with several other donors, contributed to the purchase of the New Netherlands Coin Company Archives. Founded in 1936 by Moritz Wormser, this firm came under the directorship of Moritz' son, Charles Wormser, in 1946. During the period 1951-1970, John J. Ford assumed full editorial responsibility for New Netherlands' catalogues and from 1952 until 1960, Walter Breen contributed his cataloging skills to the firm. Coins sold by the firm came from the best collections, which included the Norweb, Brand, Eliasberg, Boyd, Gibbs, and Downing collections.

Beginning in November, 1994, the firm of Bowers and Merena commenced the auction of the legendary Armand Champa library, which was sold at four separate sales, the last occurring in November of 1995. I knew about some of the rarities to be offered and also knew that attempting to purchase only one or two would considerably deplete my library budget. Harry knew this as well, so he called me prior to the first sale and once again offered to help, pointing out that these sales would offer items which appear "once in a lifetime." Through Harry's generosity, many of these

items are now in the American Numismatic Society library. To mention just a few, the library acquired Raphael Prosper Thian's "Register of issues of Confederate States Treasury Notes," the personal diary of Joseph J. Mickley, the confidential black list of Philadelphia coin dealer, Henry Chapman, correspondence of George F. Kunz for the period 1892-1932, several manuscripts by Walter Breen, and a number of rare counterfeit detectors and auction catalogs. The last library purchase to which Harry lent his direct support was from the Charles Davis auction of March 22, 1997, which included a number of Henry Chapman's bid books. Of the thirteen quarto sized sales offered by Davis, ten were acquired by our library.

Over the past several years, despite the fact that he was very much involved with projects initiated by the Harry Bass Research Foundation and despite the fact that his health was failing, Harry still spent a good deal of time supporting computerization of the ANS library's operations. Thanks to his Foundation, the Society now had its own web page. However, he wanted to make available the library's holdings on the web, as he had done for much of the coin collection. In the months prior to his death, he made provision for this and, indeed, was able to see some initial results of our card catalog conversion project. I spoke with him for the last time a week before he passed away and found his indomitable spirit very much intact. He was a true rarity, the kind of person everyone should be fortunate enough to know at some point in their lives. I had that good fortune and I will truly miss the friendship and counsel of this extraordinary individual.

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## Ken Kowe: Amateur of Numismatic Literature By Joel J. Orosz, NLG

The twentieth century has not been kind to the enthusiast. Professionals rule the roost; those who moonlight are dismissed as "mere amateurs." But "amateur" has not always meant "non-professional." Its root is the Latin "amator," meaning "lover." If ever in the history of numismatic literature there was an "amateur" in the strict sense of the term, it was Ken Lowe, who suddenly passed away this past February.

Ken was an English teacher by vocation, but his passionate avocation was anything printed about coins and paper money. When one reads the first half-dozen or so of the catalogs that he wrote for The Money Tree (a

partnership between Ken and Myron Xenos), or any of the numbers of their house organ, *Out on a Limb*, his love of the literature virtually bubbles off the pages. Puns proliferate, one-liners line up, and always the cataloger gently mocks himself.

The enthusiasm could sometimes flirt with transcending conventional standards; occasionally a customer, after imbibing in the pure joy of a Ken Lowe description, found himself the owner of some item of literature that he didn't really need, at a price higher than he might otherwise have been willing to pay. Yet nearly all forgave Ken everything, for his enthusiasm was as contagious as it was bulletproof.

Only Ken Lowe would take the time to annotate every lot in a sale of eight or nine hundred items. Only Ken Lowe would wax rhapsodic about the merits of obscure monographs or commonplace periodicals. Only Ken Lowe would write three single-spaced pages about a single day spent at an ANA convention, in the process finding something complimentary to say about scores of collectors he met on the bourse floor. Only a true amateur would do such things.

It was all too easy to judge Ken as a sort of ardent swain of numismatic literature, all heart and no head. It was true that there were more profound students of the art, whose knowledge came from deeper wells. Anyone who ever had a serious conversation on the subject with brother Lowe, however, discovered that he possessed a broad-ranging and thoroughgoing knowledge of the literature of numismatics. He was also an authority on some of the related aspects of the hobby. For example, Ken was a pioneer in collecting storecards published by coin dealers, which is now becoming recognized as a natural adjunct to the hobby of collecting the literature.

Ken Lowe leaves many legacies. No one in the annals of our hobby has felt the sheer joy of it as deeply as he did, and perhaps as a result, no one worked harder than he to recruit and educate new collectors. Ken dispensed kind words and welcoming attitudes freely; he never met a stranger in his hobby. Nor did Ken ever dwell on slights, or nurse a grudge. If he had enemies, he kept his enmities to himself. And above all, he radiated boundless enthusiasm for numismatic literature.

It is one of life's sad ironies that Ken had just retired a few months before his passing. He had always had energy in pursuit of his hobby; now he had time, and Ken was in his element. How sad that he was allotted so short a span in this happy state. Perhaps, however, we should take a figurative leaf from Ken's book, and look at the positive side of this unhappy event. Ken's ardor for numismatic literature burned undimmed to the very end; he will always be the consummate amateur of our hobby.

## A Friend I Barely Knew

By Harold Welch

February 23, 1998. I sit before my keyboard half dazed. I have only learned of Ken Lowe's sudden death within the hour. It's a gray melancholy Monday in Minneapolis and I thought I would swing by Remy Bourne's to pick up Dean (my son) and my auction catalogs for Remy's upcoming sale. Perhaps I would peruse a few of the lots and chat with Remy a little; that always brightens my day.

Remy's phone was busy. After he got off one call, he joked "That was a heavy hitter!" I replied that I was quite certain that was what he always says as he gets off the phone with me. Remy checked his voice mail to see if any other calls had come in while he was on the phone. "See, there's another one!" Remy seemed to be enjoying the steady flow of activity and the interaction with friends and customers (usually one and the same). As Remy returned the call, I entertained myself by examining a couple of the auction lots. With my nose buried in a book, I heard Remy say, "I think I'm going to cry." Not looking up, and thinking he had just lost a consignor or a big bid or something of the sort, I replied with a lighthearted "Uh-Oh!" As Remy left the room, I realized he was in fact crying.

I waited a few minutes in respect for his privacy, but then went to my friend to see if I could be of assistance. Remy looked up at me and said, "Ken Lowe has died." I heard his words clearly, but my mind couldn't immediately make sense of it — I had to have misunderstood. I had only recently spoken with Ken on the telephone. He had told me he was coming for Remy's auction. I looked stupidly at Remy and said: "What? Who?" Remy repeated himself and I could pretend to not understand no longer. I remember swearing under my breath: "Damn it! DAMN IT!" We had but a few minutes to discuss our shock and grief before the calls began to come in. I excused myself and headed home.

As I drove, I tried to figure it out. I hadn't really known Ken that well. We had met in person only three of four times. Yet even upon our first meeting I felt he was a friend. Collecting numismatic literature isn't only about gathering old dusty books, it's about the people you meet and the friends you make. It's about understanding the twinkle in his eye and the excitement in his voice as Ken showed me a return envelope from some old-time coin dealer, something that most people would be hard-pressed to give a polite "Oh that's nice." Shared interests and a common desire to learn just a little bit more can build friendship quickly.

Ken told me that he had an old book on British tokens (my specialty) and if I would simply let him know what it was, he would be glad to send it to me with his compliments. He wasn't worried that it might be valuable, he just wanted to know what it might be and thought I might enjoy it. When the package arrived, it contained the book in question and a copy of Bower's *Adventures with Rare Coins* as a gift for my son ("Enclosed with my compliments is a book for Dean. Pretty neat stuff in it. Maybe he'll let Dad read it, especially John Ford's Introduction."). Down in the corner was a special limited edition numbered copy of the 1997 50th anniversary *Red Book* ("I had to enclose something to fill out the box."). The token book turned out to be a truly charming little volume that had been put together from parts of *The Virtuoso's Companion* and other early works, along with numerous handmade rubbings and annotations. I will always cherish it.

Ken closed by saying, "I enjoyed getting to spend some time with Dean and you at Remy's sale. Minneapolis may have cold weather, but it sure produces good people with warm hearts." In his most recent issue of *Out on a Limb*, Ken noted the people in attendance, very kindly mentioning Dean and myself: "Harold Welch [writer/researcher par excellence of Conder Tokens, a fine generous gentleman whom I don't get to see often enough], Dean Welch (an enthusiastic young numismatist, a fine young man)." How could I not come to feel friendship and affection – even in the short time that I knew him – for a guy like that?

Ken was so bright, so knowledgeable. It seemed he knew every story and tale regarding numismatics and he told them with relish. He had a boyish grin and a twinkle in his eye. That is how I will always remember him. I had wanted very much to build a long-term friendship with Ken. He was someone I admired and respected and I always enjoyed his company. I agree with you, Ken, I didn't get to see you often enough.

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## NBS Meeting: Cincinnati ANA Mid-Winter Convention March 20, 1998

Over 25 people attended the NBS Club meeting held during the ANA Mid-Winter Convention in Cincinnati, Friday, March 20th. The meeting commenced with current club news. Myron Xenos then expressed his sincere appreciation for the cards, letters, and phone calls received on behalf

of Ken Lowe. Myron has forwarded all correspondence to Ken's family. If you would still like to send your condolences, please feel free to write to Myron Xenos, c/o The Money Tree, 1260 Smith Court, Rocky River, Ohio 44116 or fax to 216-333-4463.

The featured speaker for the meeting was Gabrielle Fox, noted book binder and conservationist. Ms. Fox specializes in top quality conservation work (paper restoration and binding restoration) and high quality binding (new leather bindings, rebinding, original miniature book bindings, clamshell boxes, etc.). Ms. Fox's presentation included several wonderful anecdotes. For example, she told of a family who had a rare heirloom volume chewed apart by its beloved household canine. The dog's jaws were so strong that the paper became "welded together" at the chew marks. With the patience bestowed upon only a few people, Ms. Fox carefully removed one leaf at a time until the book was completely disassembled, repaired each page, and rebound the book. This care, attention to detail, and patience are key attributes to Ms. Fox's contribution to the world of book binding.

Of particular interest was a book Ms. Fox worked on years ago which was still in pieces for display and training purposes. The book-in-process illustrated the process for sewing bindings, adding silk headbands, adding spine bands, attaching end papers, and how the leather cover is prepared. Leather covers must be pared thin by hand to create thick and thin spots in the leather corresponding to folds, glue joints, and strength requirements.

While Ms. Fox will undertake most book binding work, she most enjoys conservation work, binding repairs, and creating unique leather bindings. A number of exquisite photographs of her prior work were shown at the meeting. Ms. Fox also displayed a number of rare numismatic literature items from the Michael Sullivan library, previously repaired or in the process of restoration. Anyone interested in contacting Ms. Fox to consider commissioning work may telephone her at Duttenhofer's Books & News, 513-381-1340 or by mail: Gabrielle Fox, PO Box 8977, Cincinnati, Ohio 45208. You will be most impressed with the quality of her work, the turnaround time, and her service.

Meeting Attendees Included Nawana Britenriker, John Burns, Judy Cochrane, Norman Cochrane, David Davis, Ray Ellenbogen, John Eshbach, George Fitzgerald, Mark Ferguson, Dan Hamelberg, Dee Homren, Charlie Horning, Wayne Homren, Brad Karoleff, David Sklow, Sherry Sklow, Victoria Stone (*Coin World Reporter*), Michael Sullivan, Bill Swoger, David Thomas, John Wilson, Nancy Wilson, Wendell Wolka, Daryl Xenos, and Myron Xenos.

## Some Random Numismatic Reminiscences - Part 1

Randolph Zander

*Editor's Note: Universally admired and respected, Ran Zander for many years was one of the most important foreign coin dealers in the United States of America. His specialty was Russian numismatics and, since retirement, he has ably edited the Journal of the Russian Numismatic Society – often almost single-handedly filling its pages with delightfully-written numismatic articles containing important information never before published in English. The following reminiscences, dealing in large part with well-known American coin dealers and collectors from the 1920s on, first appeared there and are published here with minor changes.*

History, as written down, is too often the dry hulk of events and scenes with all the succulence drained out. Ninety percent of today's common knowledge evaporates within a generation or two as the witnesses die out. This is all the truer of a discipline like numismatics than, say, a talkative ambient like a literary movement, for most of the time we coin people are among the most laconic or the laziest.

Official historians may try their best, but they struggle too often within the limits of over-dainty propriety. The splendid ANS centenary volume – one of the best – is thus shackled. Take, on the other hand, the late Stuart Mosher – he knew everybody, he had grasp, he was observant and trenchant without being petty or vindictive, and after listening to his fluent monologue with a couple of drinks under his skin, you'd agree that, with a minimum of editing, he would have been an ideal answer to the oral historian's prayer.<sup>1</sup>

Good work is going on. Some of the *Asylum's* authors have distilled much living history out of the often quite abundant contemporary records of events. *Geldgeschichtliche Nachrichten's* detailed sketches of great numismatists are admirable. John Ford in 1957 put together a memorable note on the just deceased Wayte Raymond. John Adams' biographical sketches in his two books on U. S. Numismatic Literature are of decided value. Two hundred-odd years of still not fully plumbed correspondence files of the Hermitage, a century's worth of those of the State Historical Museum, and the intact files of certain Russian numismatic families are yielding good "three-dimensional" material. Somebody with a tape recorder was enterprising enough to sit down next to centenarian Eduard Gans and let him talk.

The following pages are offered as an extremely modest contribution. I have not been a specially keen observer. The main merit of what I have to say is that I have been looking on, after my absent-minded fashion, for a very long time, and a melange of what I can call up doubtless contains some otherwise overlooked or half-forgotten fragments. I have spent most

of the time on events and personalities of the 1960s and before, on the principle that these are likely the least intimately known today. I may have made too free with names now largely out of sight; I apologize to those to whom these are beyond the horizon; the thought was that there is still a fair public of readers with memories going back that far who might enjoy the gossip.

I beg the reader's indulgence for the first person singular that occurs so often in these notes. More often than not I had a part in what's being spoken of, and willy-nilly can't excise myself. It is too bad that sometimes I cannot give dates or other details precisely. Except for the Russians, my books and papers are gone.



Thomas L. Elder came from Western Pennsylvania to New York around the turn of the century. In the city he soon became a prominent "coin and curio" dealer and auctioneer until his retirement in 1938. He was a tall, straight-standing, lanky man, and even in later life he had the wild mesmeric eye you see in pictures of John C. Calhoun and many Confederate soldiers of Scotch-Irish descent. Like them, he held strong views and shared them unabashed. He early compelled the attention of the numismatic public; he waded as a principal into the 1909 A. N. A. presidential election controversy between the Higgins versus the Henderson crowds, crossing swords with the redoubtable Farran Zerbe. The affair almost wrecked the A. N. A. He struck the Brian Boru and the Lief Erickson dollars, he put out an argumentative monthly coin magazine, and he soon was racking up good success with his auctions, of which in the end he held almost 300, including quite a few that stand as classics. He auctioned a surprising number of useful reference books and occasionally some philatelic items.

Tom Elder used to call talers thaylers, he had other quirks, and he enjoyed being known as the fastest cataloger in the business. He was far from careless, though: his Skilton<sup>2</sup> catalogue of 1925, for example, with hundreds of rare Hispanic proclamation pieces, is a model of careful scholarship. And he did all his own work – in those days it would have been faintly disreputable to depend on a hired gun for one's cataloguing.

I owe him a lot as my unwitting early numismatic guide. Before the late 20s coins were for me a desultory interest – looking for Indian cents and the occasional liberty-seated quarter and using the J. W. Scott catalogue to classify coins a travelling aunt sometimes sent. Around 1928 I bought an 1841 dollar from an Elder ad for \$1.50, read about his sales, wrote for a catalogue and took the de Camp bus from Montclair one Saturday to go to my first auction. I had about \$10.00 discretionary money on me, so the

overhead – two 50¢ bus fares and an 8¢ malted on Sixth Avenue – at the cheapest would run me over 10%.

Elder didn't make an orderly numismatist out of me, it was simply that he broadened the perspective spectacularly. His average auction was a wild pot pourri – many choice items way above me, even unappreciated by me, together with a varied fare of every sort of inexpensive temptation and of large lots. For a kid, in the face of such bounty, how could one think of planning, foresight or "investment"? It was all targets of opportunity and impulse bidding – auction fever on a two-bit scale. You could find various Latin American duros, some with good mintmarks, in nice shape for 35¢ – just a trifle over bullion. I once bought a lot of three proof quarters of the 1880s for 30¢ each – they were heavily tarnished, then a fatal disadvantage, nowadays cause for breathless lyrics<sup>3</sup>.

Elder's office was in a dingy building at 8 West 37th Street, a block east of New York's fur-bearing and garment district. On auction morning he and his slaveys laid out all the individual coins on top of their envelopes on tables and displayed the big lots wherever there was room, often on the floor to the side. Bidders circulated freely, handled the merchandise, occasionally bounced a coin off the concrete floor, but remarkably rarely switched coins or otherwise abused Elder's trust. Then everybody trooped upstairs to a vacant loft where the sale was cried with great speed in what soon became a dense fog of cheap cigar smoke. Elder was always ready with a pungent word – one star customer, for example, was an upstate dirt farmer who came dressed as if straight from forking the manure heap, nonetheless he had money and impeccable taste and bought nothing but the best. Elder could be depended on to growl in a stage whisper, "pearls before swine." At the other end, there was John Zug – the well known dealer's dealer, up on the local train from his somber big house on the hill in Bowie, Maryland, dapper in high starched collar, holding his pencil raised as he whistled his bids through his store teeth. He won a good proportion of the top U. S. material – items like a Stella for \$120-odd.<sup>4</sup> During one period, Tom Elder showed his rare obsequious side to a brat a little younger than me, Wolfson by name and a wildly uninhibited bidder with precocious taste (I've wondered if he might have been the same Wolfson whose important collection Stack's many years later auctioned).

My passion for Russian (specially copper) coins took serious form only after I began studying the language at school and took Professor Geroid Tanquary Robinson's (so help me!) celebrated course in Russian history, cutting off around Witte's day. After that I bought from Elder sales a fair number of groups of Petrine coppers and large piataks – a big bang for the buck. I had little chance at high-grade Russian coins – Alex von Sandro and Izzy Snyderman<sup>5</sup> monopolized such pieces, and in any case I couldn't have afforded them.

After retiring reluctantly, Thomas Elder tried halfheartedly a few mail-bid sales from home, then lived somewhat at sixes and sevens for another 10 years, into 1948, at home in Westchester in summer and in South Carolina in winter. He couldn't shake his bronchial trouble, though he smoked noxious medicated cigarettes on the promise of relief. One saw him around, selling off stock at various dealers's, as much for companionship as for the money.

Decades later Ben Douglas of Washington and I drove up to see Paul Seitz, the Pennsylvania Dutch dealer, on his home turf. He had bought the leftovers of the Elder stock a good while before. Ben brought home thousands of broken bank notes and I, finding no foreign material and thus a bored and easy mark, fell for a great mass of small cut semi-precious gemstones I knew nothing about – one element of Elder's Coin and Curio business that justified the "curio" part of the title.



Henry Chapman died in Philadelphia in 1936. The closest I ever came to him was occasionally when I got to an Elder auction. I remember the old man with his tobacco-stained patriarchal beard in 1933, just after gold coins had been recalled and demonetized, cackling over his proposition that if you swallowed a ten-dollar gold piece it would not be illegal to pass it.

The family held on to his secretary-understudy of many years, Miss Wright, and she genteelly kept the business afloat on a much reduced scale, in the familiar second-story back chamber in the house's ell. One reached it through a side door on South 15th Street through which Enrico Caruso in his day and scores of other numismatic eminences had often passed. On the room's side next to the main house was the walk-in vault John Story Jenks had presented to Chapman at the 1921 auction of his remarkable collection. Miss Wright was not eager to sell too much too soon and be left without a job. However, many persistent buyers were able to make a good thing of it, H. D. Gibbs from Pittsburgh especially, for Miss Wright never tampered with Henry Chapman's old prices. The rumor was that some visitors tilted the odds still further in their favor by switching coin tickets.

In the late 1930s I worked for the old Kellett Autogiro firm in South Philadelphia, not far from Hog Island, and every now and then I looked in on the historic 15th Street premises and passed the time of day with its guardian. Some found her forbidding, I thought she seemed to show a wistful charm. My buying power was very modest, even for those days' prices. I remember an uncirculated Louis XIV boy-head ecu, my most ambitious buy, which cost me five dollars. Why it never occurred to me to ask about Russian coins still mystifies me. As I later learned there were a good many in stock.



In the late 30s I ran across a hole-in-the-wall dealer on Arch Street, Philadelphia, near the old Reading Station, Bill Rabin by name. In the corner stood a shabby steamer trunk, which turned out to be half full of British tradesmen's halfpenny tokens and the other half Russian coppers, all neatly sorted and folded up in brown-paper rolls, as was custom in those days.

Bill was eager to sell me the trunkload for \$100 – at a guess maybe 3 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents apiece. But that was three week's pay, so I inexpertly cherry picked some of the rolls and left it at that. Half a dozen years later, while I was on leave I had occasion to run downtown and I looked in on Bill out of curiosity – he was a little more grizzled, and he was still sitting on the Russian half of the trunkful.<sup>6</sup>



In the summer of 1945 I was enroute from the Levant to Washington via London. There were a few numismatic hours free. Seaby's, whom I knew, weren't of help with Russian copper – then my monomania – but they told me where to find A. H. Baldwin & Sons, whom till then I had not known. Albert Baldwin and his cousin Douglas Mitchell were manning the large reception room in the once elegant Adams house at 4 Robert Street, much of which the Firm occupied. They showed me a sizable box with Russian coppers no longer in their trays but jumbled together under a heavy layer of recent dust and slivers of glass – disorder the result of a near miss by a buzz-bomb a few months before.<sup>7</sup>

Albert Baldwin saw me on my way with a good selection I had picked from the copper box along with the loan of the Firm's copies of Giel & Ilyin and Ilyin & Tolstoi, which I photostated when I got home. It was typical of the man. His thoughtful kindnesses and his numismatic civic virtue, masked by a sometimes acerbic presence, were with him a matter of noblesse oblige. Major museums and a wide circle of serious numismatists are much in his debt.

In the course of about 25 years it became ever more evident that he was the Firm's key man, perceptive customers sought him out, though his Uncle Fred remained very positively the de jure head and hoarded the big-name accounts like the Norwebs and Lockett. Albert, seriously and progressively diabetic, carried a great, largely self-imposed responsibility and a workload that would have done in a robust man. Used up and gravely ill, he died in his mid-50s.

Albert's nephew Peter Mitchell, a great-grandson of the founder A. H. Baldwin, whom Albert and Peter's father Douglas<sup>8</sup> had trained, moved

forward in the crisis; it became immediately evident that Baldwins were uninterruptedly in firm and competent hands.

It is not generally realized that A. H. Baldwin & Sons, founded in 1872, is the longest active numismatic firm in the hands of a single family, a fifth-generation Baldwin having come aboard some 15 years ago. Some other names claim the greater longevity but are not now headed by descendants of the founder.

For 30 years, until I retired from the coin business in 1975, I traded with the Baldwins, and we are still in touch. It was a central fact of my numismatic life. I bought infinitely more than I sold, but occasionally I came up with an item for them like a Dorrien & Magins shilling. In my day the Firm had undoubtedly as large and varied a stock as any active dealer. From their reserve they doled me out staples they knew would be of use, often in great quantity, like native Indian rupees, communion tokens,<sup>9</sup> Papal medals, tradesmen's halfpennies (often BU),<sup>10</sup> coin weights and even 19th century decent U. S. coins in quantity. Through them I bid regularly in Glens and other London sales, then a major source for the U. S. dealer in foreign coins.<sup>11</sup> Baldwins catalogued for Christie's the GM Russian gold sale in 1950. They sent me catalogues – I canvassed U. S. collectors of Russian coins and medals and relayed back consolidated U. S. bids, a modest percentage of which were successful.



In his brief career David Bullowa, who was about my age, quickly established himself as one of our top dealers and students and, in his day, by all odds America's most erudite numismatic bibliophile. His brief years gave him little time to write much, but his auction catalogues were memorable. Before WWII he was for a time with the New Netherlands firm, in their cozy lower Fifth Avenue roost, cattycorner from Rudolph Kohler's long narrow upstairs coin office<sup>12</sup>.

As an NCO in Italy during the war, Dave made important local numismatic friendships and bought innumerable books and coins. He regularly sent all these things home through the APO addressed to the ANS, begging the Society to keep whatever it needed. Dave developed an abiding and refined taste for Italian cooking, and always took a leisurely lunch at an Italian place near his shop. Dave's death in 1953 at the age of 41 was a major numismatic and personal tragedy.

A few years before, he had taken over Ira Reed's numismatic premises in Philadelphia, on South 18th Street just below Market. He and Ed Rice, a New Jersey speculator, had bought out the still substantial remainder of the Chapman stock when Miss Wright at last retired. There were present untouched odds and ends from Chapman's memorable Jenks sale of 1921.

David asked me to look over the Russian material, one highlight of which turned out to be half a hundred proof coppers from the mid-19th century on. They didn't come cheap, Dave wanted 50 cents apiece across the board!

Not long after David Bullowa's long regretted death, Cathy Bullowa told me she had wholesaled to Dan Brown in Denver a considerable part of the firm's stock. Henry Grunthal took a heavy load of foreign medals off her hands around then. This was before Cathy decided to set up Coinhunter – her own coin business, now one of the oldest still healthily active. Dan proved amenable to turning a large part of the foreign element over to me. Most of it I sold through lists, but a few coins tempted me, including some Russian items Dave had overlooked when he showed me the Russian material among what he had bought from Miss Wright.



Serge Glad, an emigre Russian naval officer and medal collector, tipped me off sometime in 1947 to an ad in the New York *Hobo Русское Слово* (known as the Hobo News) from a Madam Mintzlova in Venezuela who offered to sell a collection of Russian gold coins. It turned out to be a fine group of some 125 pieces that had belonged to her late husband, a well-known feuilletoniste in Riga between the wars. The widow's maiden name was Bodisko – an ancient Ukrainian family. The gold was the most portable part of Mintzlov's large collection. The silver and copper – the bulky elements – had been hurriedly buried on the way west in a Berlin sector that soon afterward came under Soviet control.

Madam Mintzlova undertook to send the gold coins in three installments, and I obtained a ruling beforehand from the Customs Bureau that these were admissible (Mr. Dull, the appropriately named Customs Agent in the somnolent Alexandria port, whose main traffic was newsprint and petroleum, had said he would confiscate them). Two installments came through, then Madam Mintzlova died. Neither her brother nor daughter, at daggers' points, would trust the other to send the third lot, so they carried it together to a Caracas jeweler; the odds are ten to one that he then dropped this group, which included an almost complete run of proof 20th century Russian gold, into the crucible.

A traveler later gave Madam Mintzlova's daughter a pouch with a couple of hundred mordovkas and half a dozen coppers, including a dubious 180-piatak – all that could be spirited away from the Mintzlova Berlin deposit. I turned the mordovkas over to Emmett Peake, a rather advanced Rochester Russian specialist, who just then had stopped by to introduce himself. Thirty-five years later he joined our new RNS, and that is all I ever got to know about this enigmatic colleague.



Jan Ignatiewicz Bekisz, a lamed WWI veteran, practiced law in Vilna during the years between the wars. He was an accomplished numismatist and had the resources to support his hobby on a generous scale. When the Soviet overran Poland in 1939, he found a precarious sanctuary as numismatic curator at his home town museum. Five years later, as the Germans retreated westward, Bekisz, with his wife and daughter joined the massive exodus of civilians fleeing from the Soviet advance. Loading essential belongings in a pushcart, for a good deal of the way they trudged to Hamburg. Included in the baggage were Bekisz's Russian silver and copper coins (his gold and rich taler series had been confiscated) along with a few basic numismatic references.

From Hamburg, in the British-occupied zone, the family made their way to London, spent a few lean years there, and ended in Australia in Hurlstone Park, a suburb of Sydney. As soon as the war was over, Jan Bekisz put himself in touch with some of the scattered emigre numismatists, and it was through their introduction that he and I were steadily in contact till he died some 20 years later.

Bekisz in exile kept up his numismatic studies, and in 1960 and 1966 he published in 50-copy editions two important collections of articles – Numizmaticheskiye Zapiski – mostly his own work. Sadly, my lent-out copy of the first issue has gone astray but the second, with 121 pages, includes among others a discussion of the inscriptions on silver bars, a note on two unpublished coins of Vladimir Olgerdovich, Shukhaeyevsky's exposition on the background of the Putilov-Sevsk chekh episode – one of the best until Valentin Ryabtsevich's recent standard work on the subject, a useful Russian numismatic bibliography for 1930-1965, and Arefiev's stern review of Severin's silver book. Jan Ignatiewicz was responsible not only for the substance of his compendiums but for all the boring logistical details as well. Try making 50 perfect pencil pressings one after the other of the same medal in high relief. Then make 50 x 7 pressings for seven other coins and medals. And put together the 50 semi-hard covers and bind the contents firmly into them. Talk about a labor of love!

Bekisz (who later half-anglicized his name to Bekish) sold me his copper coins while he was still in London, the silver collection followed in the late 1950s, and I was very grateful to his widow for letting me take over the library which he had largely reconstituted. Each of these elements reflected the discriminating work of a very judicious and fully informed collector. The high point of the copper group was the 1796 cipher pattern grivennik with floreated "E" (Br 33, Elmen 1504 @ \$3800). It was successively a show piece of my collection, and those of William Schirmer and Bernhard Brekke.

From the silver series the most notable piece was a copper trial strike of the 1807 ruble. Bekisz reported finding it in a copper odds and ends box; he soon enough identified it. Severin 2575 and "Duplicates" 1931 No. 278 @ Mk 350, not knowing of the Bekisz specimen, both claimed it as unique. The coin would have been struck in June 1807 by James Duncan, of the Boulton team at the St. Petersburg Mint, as he was making final adjustments for the first run of business strikes from the newly installed Soho presses that began on the 20th of that month – a coin of capital importance. Memory fails as to the disposition of this piece; it shames me to say that in spite of Jan Ignatiewicz's clear emphasis at the time the coin impressed me less than it should have.

#### FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup> Stuart Mosher, a down east bluenose, worked professionally for Wayte Raymond for some years. After time out for a bout with TB and a pneumothorax, he ventured back to work, this time for New Netherlands. Then, as editor of *The Numismatist* he recuperated in McAllen, Texas, until he was called to the Smithsonian as curator of coins around 1950. He held the two jobs concurrently till his death three years later. He did his best, at some risk to himself, to mediate the dispute involving Frank Katen and the ANA establishment.

<sup>2</sup> In 1982, acting for Numismatics International, I arranged for the reprinting of the Skilton catalogue.

<sup>3</sup> There were the Kossuth notes of 1852 in uncut sheets, just as they were unloaded by the unpaid printer after Kossuth's government had collapsed – one, two and five florins, beautiful engraving by Tappan, Casilear and forgotten partner, the firm that printed our first postage stamps. I bought a thousand unsigned sheets of each for \$1.50 per thousand. When I had wrestled the load home, all I could think of was to cut up a few sheets, sign the notes "Kossuth" in India ink and use them as play money.

<sup>4</sup> John Zug's daughter, Frances Ann (Mrs. John Clothier Stokes) displayed the firm authority common to many petite women along with her father's cool business sense. She became an accomplished antiquarian, conducting a semi-private trade in Baltimore, handling only high class objects. During WWII, as a Red Cross volunteer in Boston, she traded a quantity of the firm's numismatic stock with Percy Rideout, a well-known general collector/dealer, against a rug collection. Many years later I bought most of her meager foreign remnants, along with some rare Hawaiian patterns. Abe Kosoff eventually took over her choice U. S. material.

<sup>5</sup> Isodore Snyderman kept an elegant store on 57th Street at Fifth Avenue, where he specialized in Russian antiquities and objets de vertu. He was later a major source when Sol Kaplan, acting for Willis duPont, was gathering material in an effort to reconstitute for the Smithsonian Institution the missing gold element of the silver and copper GM collection which he had recently donated to the Museum.

<sup>6</sup> The episode underlines the truth that except for U. S. and Canadian coins, Russian copper was one of the few series some Americans then went to the trouble of collecting by date and

## The NBS Writer's Award Ballot Volume 15, 1997

The annual NBS Writer's Award was established to recognize contribution to our flagship publication, *The Asylum*. The NBS Board unanimously supported the vision that the general membership should select the recipient of this award via a anonymous ballot.

## PROCESS

1. Review the List of Article Appearing in Volume 15 of *The Asylum*.
2. Select Your **THREE TOP PICKS** and Mark the Box to the Right
3. **Return Your Ballot to Secretary-Treasurer Dave Hirt Postmarked by July 2nd**
4. Results will be Announced at the ANA Convention During the NBS Meeting

## **THE ARTICLES PUBLISHED in VOLUME 15 of THE ASYLUM**

	VOTE (X)
1.	Ard W. Browning Through a 1920 Looking Glass (Carl Herkowitz, Summer-Fall 1997)
2.	Armand Champa - a Personal Memoir (Joel Orosz, Spring 1997)
3.	<i>The Asylum</i> Cumulative Index: Volumes I Through XV (1980-1997) and Introduction (William Malkmus and Michael Sullivan, Fall 1997)
4.	The Beginning of Coin Investment Literature (Joel Orosz, Winter 1997)
5.	A Brief Review of Canadian Numismatics as Reflected in its Books and Auction Catalogs (Philip Carrigan, Spring 1997)
6.	Collins, Me & NBS (George Kolbe, Fall 1997)
7.	The Development of the Coin Album - Part One (David W. Lange, Spring 1997)
8.	An Early Bowers Numismatic Literature Sale (Dave Hirt, Spring 1997)
9.	The 1877 Fifty Dollar Gold Patterns: A Civil War Connection? (Dave Hirt, Winter 1997)
10.	Friends Over Generations Through Numismatics: Marvin Fessenden (Bradley Karoleff, Winter 1997)
11.	The Numismatic Bibliomania Society, 1980-1997: a History of Seventeen Years in Fifteen Volumes (Joel Orosz, Fall 1997)
12.	Numismatic Books - An Adventuresome Pursuit (Alan Luedeking, Summer-Fall 1997)
13.	Numismatics in Fiction - a Trial List (P. Gasper and C. Carlisle, Summer-Fall 1997)
14.	The Printer's Devil: <i>American Numismatist / The Numismatist</i> (Joel Orosz, Winter 1997)
15.	The Printer's Devil - the 8th Annual Shammy Awards (Joel Orosz, Summer-Fall 1997)
16.	Show and Tell! (Wayne Homren, Spring 1997)
17.	Tips on Moving a Library (Wayne Homren, Winter 1997)
18.	Vignette from the Davis Sale (John Adams, Spring 1997)

**SEND BALLOTS TO:**

Dave Hirt, Secretary-Treasurer  
Numismatic Bibliomania Society  
5911 Quinn Orchard Road  
Frederick, MD 21701



mintmark. And with other big accumulations I've run across, it reinforces the indication of just how plentiful these coins were (for that matter, think of the tens of thousands of piataks that swamped the market as recently as a couple of years ago). One reason so many survived is that at one time they were worth more intrinsically than their face value. People actually buried hoards of them.

<sup>7</sup> The foresighted Baldwins fared better than Spink's, who suffered grievous stock attrition when such a bomb had struck their building. Baldwins had prudently entrusted their best material for safe-keeping to old customers spotted around the countryside.

<sup>8</sup> Douglas Mitchell had entered the Baldwin establishment in 1924. His tenure – over 60 years – fell not far short of the length of Queen Victoria's reign. For that matter, the original A. H. Baldwin spent just as long "on active duty."

<sup>9</sup> Not all the communion tokens ended in numismatic channels. O. K. Rumble, a Texas collector and a devoted Presbyterian layman, had numbers of the commoner ones sealed in plastic, and given out, one per graduate, to newly minted clergymen who came out of a Texas seminary.

<sup>10</sup> The BU halfpennies had survived the London fog and other vicissitudes unchanged in their brown paper wrapping for a century and a half. The first batch I solicitously put into sulfur-free envelopes. Within six months their pristine tone began to fade. So much for over-solicitude.

<sup>11</sup> The large lots of odds and ends, that in those sales habitually finished up most offerings of older collections, contained many choice pieces which in later days merited separate listing and even plating.

<sup>12</sup> So far as I know, Kohler was the first coin dealer in New York to install a bank-like security partition with heavy plate glass. This came after his aide Ed May had shot a holdup man dead. Ed died two or three years ago in California, a highly respected exonomist.

*to be continued...*

## The First Photographically Illustrated Auction Catalogue by George F. Kolbe

Most American numismatic bibliophiles know that the first photographically illustrated U. S. coin auction is Ed. Cogan's June 23 & 24, 1869 sale of the Mortimer McKenzie collection. The first photographically illustrated auction catalogue of any kind is widely believed to be Christie, Manson & Woods' 1860 sale of works of art and vertu, being the private collection of the Lowenstein brothers of Frankfurt am Main and known as the "Vienna Museum." It contained 36 photographs on salted paper by Hermann Emde of Frankfurt, one of which was handcolored.

## Researching a Story by William A. Burd

Writing a successful article depends on the quality of your research. Everything you need to know is out there; you simply need to piece it together.

When I began my article on the 1894-S Dime (later published in the February 1994 *Numismatist*), I found no information on the Superintendent of the Mint at San Francisco for 1894 beyond the *Coin World Almanac* listing, under Superintendents of the Mints, of "J. Daggett."

After much research, beginning with his daughter Hallie, I was able to piece together the life of John Daggett. One discovery led to another: from his being Lt. Governor; to the town of Daggett being named after him; to his involvement with the 1892 Columbian Exposition in Chicago; to his childhood home in Newark, New York. All of the information was obtained from local sources, including the Clerk's Office of Daggett, California, the Historical Society of Newark, New York, the State Library of California, and a dozen others.

Occasionally, information received is useful on more than one project. It happened to me while working on the Dime story. Another project involved Wells Fargo & Company and, while gathering data on cofounder Henry Wells, I discovered his wife's maiden name was Sarah Daggett. This immediately caught my attention and, after a great deal of correspondence, a link to John Daggett was made.

Sarah Daggett was born May 18, 1803 in Aurora, New York. Her father, Levi was the brother of John Daggett's grandfather. Sarah married Henry Wells on September 5, 1827 and had four children. One child died in infancy and the remaining three spent their early years in Palmyra, New York. They were likely childhood friends with John Daggett as they were cousins and lived only ten miles apart.

In 1844 Sarah's husband founded Wells & Company, an express service between Buffalo and Detroit. Service rapidly expanded to Chicago, Cincinnati and St. Louis. In 1846 he sold his interest in the western business and moved to New York to handle the eastern business. In 1850 he organized Wells Fargo & Company to handle express business to California. In that same year, John Daggett arrived in California.

Although John never worked for Wells Fargo, his life was certainly influenced by the family connection with Henry Wells. In 1884 his youngest daughter was born and he named her Leslie Wells Daggett. This connection does not seem to be of great historical significance. However, if another writer in the future does research on an article, for example, on "The

Political Influence of Wells Fargo on 19th Century America" it might become more meaningful.

History is recorded through a multitude of diverse mediums, from fossils in lava beds to manuscripts in world-renowned libraries. Somewhere in-between there are those seemingly unromantic and less than exciting bits of history found in small rural libraries, local genealogy clubs, historical societies, and cemeteries. Investigating these sources and compiling the information obtained will generally give you the basis for a well-written article containing new findings that will be of interest to your audience.

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### New: NBS Internet Web Site

[http://www.money.org/club\\_nbs.html](http://www.money.org/club_nbs.html)

The Numismatic Bibliomania Society (NBS) now has a presence on the Internet. Developed by Vice President Wayne Homren with the assistance and support of the NBS Board of Governors, the new web site is a clearing-house for information about the Society.

Computer space for the site is provided by the American Numismatic Association (ANA); the address is [http://www.money.org/club\\_nbs.html](http://www.money.org/club_nbs.html).

The site highlights the goals, history, and activities of the organization, founded in 1980 to support and promote the use and collecting of numismatic literature. Members and other interested parties will find information on the history of the organization, current and future activities, as well as society publications and awards.

Selected articles from the society's journal, *The Asylum*, are also available on the site, as well as selected numismatic literature exhibits from past ANA conventions. The NBS site also has links to other sites of interest to numismatic bibliophiles, such as the ANA and American Numismatic Society (ANS) web sites, and the Harry W. Bass Numismatic Indexes Project (NIP). The latest fifteen-volume index to *The Asylum* has just been added to NIP.

The web site is a reflection of the society's commitment to serve the needs of numismatic bibliophiles in the computer age. For more information about the NBS web site, contact Wayne Homren at [homren@cgi.com](mailto:homren@cgi.com).

## The Printer's Devil

By Joel J. Orosz, NLG

Your columnist has learned, in the hardest possible way, the perils of using the superlative degree of any adjective, *especially* when referring to numismatic literature. Whenever I have claimed something was the largest, someone has found one bigger; if I have asserted a piece to be the earliest, a critic finds one that was earlier still, if I denounce something as being the worst, a fellow-sufferer finds another that is dismal beyond compare. So I've learned, in years spent as an ink-stained wretch, to qualify my claims with the Godsend word, "known." Hence, the largest known, the earliest known, the worst known. This verbal escape hatch allows for a graceful retreat when the inevitable larger, earlier, or worse example is brought to one's attention. So it was with great humility and even greater trepidation, that your columnist proposes to write about the earliest known American numismatic literature dealer, who issued the first known catalog devoted exclusively to numismatic literature.

Traditionally, numismatic bibliomaniacs have bestowed the title of "first full-time numismatic literature dealer" on Frank Katen. It was in 1946, just after the end of World War II, that Katen entered the profession of coin dealer in New Haven, Connecticut. Over the years, his trade in coins diminished as his commerce in books about coins increased, until by the late 1960s, it was fair to say that Katen was America's first numismatic bibliopole.

Except that Frank Katen himself disclaimed the title. He was the first to point out that Aaron Feldman, the proprietor of "the world's smallest coin shop," and James Brown, a Newark bibliophile, were his contemporaries in the numismatic book trade. Moreover, there was an earlier claimant: William S. Sanders, a carpet and linoleum layer in New Haven, and an issuer of modest lists of numismatic literature. Katen remembers Sanders as having been active when he began his dealership in the immediate post-war era, which recollection is confirmed by a smattering of price lists issued by Sanders which still survive. Clearly, in Sanders, we have a secure titlist as "the first American numismatic bibliopole."

Once again, however, the superlative degree goeth before a fall. In the Money Tree's 23rd Mail-Bid Sale, closing June 24, 1995, lot 693 describes a modest catalog that brings us to a new "first known" American numismatic bibliopole: "Rood, Charles C. (Detroit). CHARLES C. ROOD'S 1ST CATALOG OF NUMISMATIC LITERATURE [1931]." Cataloger Ken Lowe

describes the piece in some detail, and closes by stating "this is an important listing by perhaps America's first dealer in numismatic literature. Rare."

Mr. Rood's 1931 catalog is a tall octavo, stapled, with eight pages if one counts the covers. The front cover is bounded by a red border, with a central vignette of an open book, also in red. Its full title reads: "Charles C. Rood's 1st Catalog of Numismatic Literature: books, periodicals, sale catalogs devoted to coins medals paper money." The catalog is ascribed to "Charles C. Rood, 2164 McClellan Ave., Detroit," and "established 1930" is noted in passing.

Here, it is necessary to make a distinction between coin dealers who sell books and numismatic bibliopoles. Coin dealers who sell books are as old as commercial American numismatics. For example, the M. Thomas & Sons sale of the J.W. Kline collection on June 12-13, 1855, was primarily a coin sale, but also contained 41 lots of numismatic literature. (On page 11 in *Numisgraphics*, Attinelli refers to the owner of this collection as A. C. Kline, but also on page 60, he reveals "A. C. Kline" to be a *nom de numismatique* for John W. Kline.) For more on this early sale, see this column in the Summer, 1993 issue of *The Asylum*. The Chapman Brothers and W. E. Woodward were also wont to sell the literature along with the coins. But these were coin dealers first and foremost, who sold literature as a sideline, not numismatic bibliopoles. Mr. Rood self-consciously decided to become a numismatic bibliopole, and thus becomes the earliest known of that species in America.

Rood's decision came in the midst of a fallow time for American numismatic literature. During the 19th Century, many coin dealers cared deeply about the literature surrounding their chosen profession. Ed Cogan, T. R. Strobridge, the Brothers Chapman, Ed Frossard, and W. E. Woodward were justly famed for producing informative and scholarly catalogs. Henry Chapman, and in particular, Woodward, gathered huge hoards of auction catalogs and other coin literature (see this column for the Fall 1994 issue and the article by John W. Adams in the Winter, 1993 issue). Moreover, during this time period, scholars like Dr. Edward Maris, Sylvester Sage Crosby, and C. Wyllys Betts were actively researching and writing. In the years following World War II, there was a second flowering of information, led by the cataloging of John J. Ford, Jr., and the research of scholars like Walter Breen, William Sheldon, and Eric P. Newman. In between, however, from about 1900 to 1945, lay the Sargasso Sea of American numismatic scholarship. Most of the pioneering giants were gone, and the post-war titans were not yet on the scene, so the stage was left mainly to hucksters like B. Max Mehl and the "just the facts, ma'am" cataloging of Tom Elder and M. H. Bolender.

John W. Adams has written eloquently of this time in his *American Numismatic Literature, Volume 2*:

...special editions and photographic plates—traditions consciously nurtured by Cogan, Woodward and Frossard—gradually disappear. In their place, we get a generation of catalogs designed to sell merchandise and then be discarded rather than to educate and be retained.

This was not a happy time to be a thinking man's coin collector in the United States. There were only two dealers to whom to turn for reliable, in-depth information: Henry Chapman and Wayte Raymond. Chapman had veritable mounds of data, but he rarely shared any except in his own auction catalogs—after all, he was a coin dealer, not a book seller. Wayte Raymond, of course, did publish books, but he was oddly reticent about selling those books. As David T. Alexander points out in his article on Raymond's *Coins of the World*, published in the Spring, 1995 issue of *The Asylum*, Raymond never sought a mass market for his publications, and personally tended to remain aloof from the run-of-the-mill collector.

Charles C. Rood lived the dilemma of the reference-hungry coin collector of the late 1920s. Under the heading of "To the Numismatist, the Collector of Numismatic Literature, Advanced Collector and the Specialist," by which he introduced his catalog, Rood had this to say about his literature-seeking travails:

My decision to engage in the Numismatic Literature business was brought about by my own difficulty in locating material for my personal library. Not one single dealer could be located who had any stock of material of this description. At considerable inconvenience and a lot of corresponding, I was able to locate a volume here and there, or an odd number *The Numismatist* or *Mehl's Monthly* or some other periodical to complete my file, now and then, and am still looking for some of them.... "They didn't have any and didn't know of anyone who did have any."

Rood's own coin collecting interests entered upon U. S. and Territorial Gold, Russian, Platinum, and Japanese Gold Obans, and it was the need for finding references on these subjects that brought him to his quest for publications. He concluded, "continued inquiry led me to suspect that there was not one dealer in the country dealing exclusively in 'Coin, Medal and Paper Money Literature,' and further search revealed my suspicions to be a fact which was corroborated by several well-known authorities in a position to know."

So it was Rood set out to be America's first and only numismatic bibliopole. A combination of lucky breaks and diligence brought him to the point of launching his enterprise:

My enthusiasm and determination were encouraged... by the purchase of an entire numismatic library and several accumulations of various sizes, from which I selected my own limited requirements and stocked the balance for disposal. After just one year of searching, advertisement, correspondence, etc., I am now in direct

contact with practically every available source of this literature. It took nearly 2,000 odd numbers of "Numismatist" for me to build one complete file, with the result that I now have the largest stock of back numbers available...

And indeed he did. Rood's first catalog offers issues of *The Numismatist* at the following rates:

1894 to 1899 inclusive at 35 cents per copy or 4 dollars per volume.

1900 to 1910 inclusive at 50 cents per copy or 5 dollars per volume.

1911 to date at 25 cents per copy or 3 dollars per volume.

The numbers between 1900 and 1908 are very scarce and those prior to 1894 extremely so; occasionally, I have the latter and will furnish prices where requested.

The rarity of the pre-1894 issues of *The Numismatist* is something with which no bibliophile will quibble, but the supposed scarcity of the later Heath years causes the latter-day collector to arch an eyebrow. In the third Armand Champa Sale by auctions by Bowers & Merena, Incorporated, cataloger (and former editor of *The Asylum*) Charles Davis states that year sets from 1894 to 1897 (Volumes 7-10) are the most difficult to purchase, since "Volumes 1-6 are readily available in reprint form, and Volumes 11- on becomes more available as the ANA grew and the print run was increased accordingly" (See Lot 2016). To claim, as does Rood, that Volumes 13 through 21 are scarcer than Volumes 7 through 12, and to accordingly charge more for them, strains credulity to the utmost. Could it be that Rood was trying to stretch his profit margin when selling more readily available material?

Rood's list was particularly rich in periodicals. Besides *The Numismatist*, he offered a complete set of the *American Journal of Numismatics*, plus individual numbers (price on application); complete sets of *Numismatic Notes and Monographs* (price on application); the first four volumes plus individual later numbers of Scott and Company's *Coin Collector's Journal* (3 dollars-5 dollars per volume); and a complete set plus individual numbers of *Mehl's Numismatic Monthly* (15 dollars for the set).

The selection of books offered by Rood is not nearly up to the standards set by the journals. Highlighting the listing was a half "Morrocco" (*sic*) *Early Coins of America* at \$25. The rest of the 45 lots offered are rather pedestrian, with ten of them being assorted Scott's Catalogs.

The listing of auction catalogs running from 1859 to date, holds more promise. "Fine stock of these," promises Rood, "priced and unpriced, about three hundred different sales, including those of all famous collections. Fine bindings, marvelous plates, also without plates or bindings." He mentions a few names—including Ten Eyck, Jenks, Granberg and Mills—and says, "lack of space prevents listings or description of the others. Send your list of wants."

Rood's first foray into auction cataloging was something of a mixed bag. Misspellings abounded: "N.W. Dickeson," "Frank Andrew," "Parmalee;" "Wassamore." On the other hand, there is an accurate one-page history of *The Numismatist*, which contains a nice appreciation of Dr. George Heath, an entirely appropriate gesture which has curiously evaded Dr. Heath's successors at the American Numismatic Association. For example, examine Volume 100 of *The Numismatist*; to mark the centennial of the journal which Dr. Heath founded and hand-printed for 21 years, the ANA did — nothing. The index to Volume 100 (1987) does not carry even one entry for Dr. Heath!

Charles C. Rood signed off on Page 8 of this inaugural catalog: "America's only 'exclusively numismatic literature' dealer." That was probably true enough in 1931, but for how long was it true? Consulting *American Numismatic Auctions* by *The Asylum*'s editor Martin Gengerke, one does not find a listing for Rood's Inaugural Catalog, much less for any successors, nor is Mr. Rood listed in Pete Smith's *American Numismatic Biographies*, nor in the index to Q. David Bowers' *American Numismatic Association Centennial History*. It seems doubtful, therefore, if Mr. Rood was able to secure enough business from his first catalog to ever justify the publication of a second.

Another conundrum remains. Since Rood proclaimed himself to be a collector of numismatic literature, who was selling, in essence his duplicates, he must have possessed (if his claims are, in fact, true) complete runs of *The Numismatist*, the *American Journal of Numismatics*, and Mehl's *Numismatic Monthly*. What became of these delicacies? Charles Davis estimates that there are but ten complete sets of *The Numismatist* (Champa 1, Lot 280), and about twenty sets of *The American Journal of Numismatics* (Champa 2, Lot 1012), in private hands. Consulting Gengerke once again, under the heading of consignors, shows only one entry for "Rood" (without first name or initials): in Tom Elder's Sale of October 9, 1924. This is, of course, before Rood's first numismatic literature catalog was issued, and thus of no help even if the consignor was Charles C. Rood.

Here is another fascinating set of mysteries for N.B.S. members to solve. What became of Charles C. Rood? Did he ever emit another numismatic literature sale? What became of his periodicals and other literature? And, to close the circle, was he really the first "exclusively numismatic literature dealer in America," or was there another, even earlier, numismatic bibliophile?

NOTE: This column was written in 1996. Since then, Pete Smith, in his *Names in Numismatics* column in *The Numismatist*, has carried the story of Rood much further. See "Charles Rood: Early Literature Dealer" in the December, 1997 issue, starting on page 1375.

## The Development of the Coin Album - Part Two

by David W. Lange

In the first installment of this series, I related the early attempts at producing a satisfactory coin album and the ascendancy of Whitman Publishing Company in this field. Its breakthrough product was the 11 x 14 inch coin board. Invented by J. K. Post in 1934, coin boards were printed for him by Whitman, which eventually acquired the rights to this product and expanded the list of available titles.

Coin boards were highly successful from the mid 1930s through the early 1940s, yet they had some drawbacks. The boards were designed to be mounted within a stock picture frame when filled, but until the collection was finished all of the coins remained exposed to the atmosphere. This wasn't much of a problem with worn coins, as they possessed an oxide layer which offered some degree of protection. Uncirculated coins, however, often acquired an image of the owner's fingerprint from his having pushed the coins into their respective openings. Some economical means of covering the coins was needed.

The solution to this problem was found in breaking the single, large board down into a series of smaller boards which overlapped one another to form a closed book. Oral tradition has long credited Whitman staffer Richard Yeo (pen name R. S. Yeoman) with this invention. In fact, the earliest folding boards appeared one year before Whitman's 1940 model. In the absence of contemporary ads, it's impossible to determine which product debuted first, but both the Daniel Stamp Company (DANSCO) and Joseph Oberwise (a manufacturer of premium cards) copyrighted folding boards in 1939.

The greater success and fame of Whitman's competing product resulted from both its more convenient form and that company's superior marketing effectiveness. While the DANSCO and Oberwise folders had but a single fold connecting two panels, the Whitman folders included three overlapping panels. This arrangement was more clever mechanically, and it produced a much smaller and more convenient book when closed. Whitman also seized the advantage by offering a greater line of titles, though DANSCO placed a close second. The Oberwise product, since it was intended solely for coins which were then obtainable from circulation, faced a natural limit to its line of titles. The few other manufacturers of coin boards failed to develop their products any further, and they succumbed to a combination of Whitman's market share and the paper shortage imposed by World War II. By 1944, Oberwise too had abandoned the coin products field, leaving only Whitman and DANSCO for the duration of the war.

The original Whitman folder of 1940 is remarkably similar to its current descendant in construction and overall appearance, though the newer folders are taller and are made of slimmer cardstock, and their color has deepened from royal blue to navy blue. This product's graphic design has been altered repeatedly over the years, and these variations are distinctive enough that I've identified a total of 12 discernible editions. It is doubtful that the company intended these changes to be noted by collectors, as no mention of them appear in its advertising; it was simply improving its product for both cost effectiveness and greater market share.

The first Whitman folders were evidently marketed late in 1940, and the earliest ads for them appeared the following year. They were priced at 25 cents each, the same cost as its one-piece boards, which remained in production at least as late as 1943. Currently priced at \$2.25 apiece, the cost of these folders is somewhat lower today in terms of fixed dollars, though the materials used for the current line are not quite as sturdy. The first edition included nearly all of the titles then current for Whitman's third edition of boards (Note: the terminology I use of "first edition" and so forth is mine alone and does not reflect any official designation by Whitman). The only titles not carried over from the boards were those for large cents, Peace Dollars and commemorative halves. Titles appearing for the first time as folders were those for silver three-cent pieces, half dimes and Bust Dimes, which to my knowledge were never produced in board form.

The first edition folders were quite elegant in appearance, despite their low-cost materials. Measuring 7-1/2" high by 5-3/4" wide, each had a glossy, royal blue cover with a simulated leather-grain. Titles were printed in silver on the front covers only, not on the spine (this didn't appear until about 1963). Inside, the panels were of sky blue paper, with the date, mint and mintage of each coin printed in black beneath its respective opening. The backing paper was black, and nearly its entire surface was coated in glue, meaning that this potentially corrosive substance was in contact with each coin's reverse. The backing paper included a free-fly endflap which served to protect the last panel of coins from contact with the second and also to provide a surface on which to print a brief description of the coin type on one side and a list of available titles on the other.

All of the Whitman folders through the tenth edition have an ornate border design at the left side of their front covers. On first edition folders this is spaced close to the spine and is accompanied by a very small catalog number, printed in silver using a sans-serif font. The catalog number remains to the present day, though its size, shape and exact location have varied from one edition to another.

Determining the age of a vintage coin folder and thus the cut-off point of each edition is a tricky process. A coin series which was then currently in

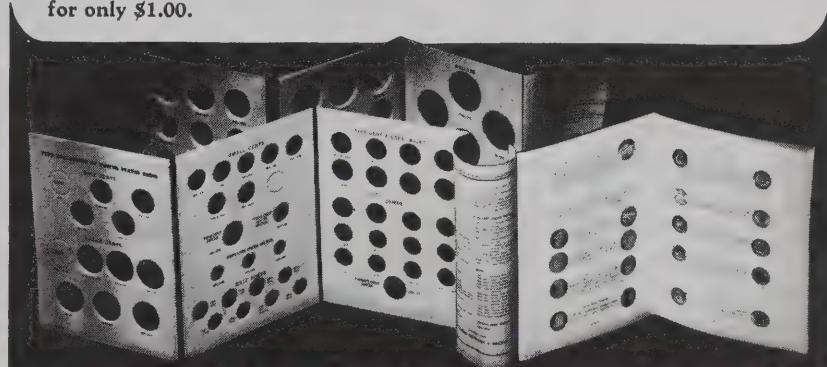


## COLLECT U. S. TYPE COINS

ALL THIS  
FOR ONLY  
**\$1.00**

1. Handbook of U. S. Type Coins
2. Folder for Half Cents, Cents, Two Cent Pieces, and on up to Twenty Cent Pieces
3. Folder for Quarters, Halves and Silver Dollars
4. Slide Case Container

Complete, convenient, compact . . . that's this new Whitman package for coin collectors! The handbook provides a simple outline of U. S. coin types, while the numerous illustrations help you to identify the types and important varieties without guesswork. The two folders will conveniently house your collection, from half cents to silver dollars. In a slide case container . . . all for only \$1.00.



See Your Coin Dealer

**WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY**  
DEPT. HV • RACINE, WISCONSIN

production can be quite helpful, as folders were typically produced during the year following the last printed mintage figures. For example, the Mercury Dime was an ongoing series when the first folders were printed, and one displaying mintage figures through 1941 was almost certainly printed during 1942. Also, the appearance of a new title on a folder's endflap, such as that for Roosevelt Dimes in 1946, dates a folder to no earlier than that year.

Using these criteria, I've determined that what I call first edition folders were printed until about 1943, perhaps succumbing to the wartime paper shortage. The folders printed after that time have covers which are still textured or grained, but do not truly simulate leather. They're also semi-matte, rather than glossy. This finish was used right up through the 1970s, though with a number of subtle color changes. The second edition folders were produced until about 1946. They feature covers exhibiting three slightly different colors, ranging from the original royal blue, to blue-gray, to a light navy blue. It's possible that these variations resulted from the use of multiple printing companies and/or wartime shortages of materials. Second edition folders are marked by a distant left border on their covers, that is to say more distant from the spine, while their catalog numbers are similar in size and style to those of the first edition. The backing paper is either black or a brownish gray.

Folder titles appearing for the first time in the second edition include two for large cents (the boards for this series having been discontinued) and one for silver dollars in general, which included no dates. The Lincoln Cent series was expanded into a second folder, but the cut-off date for the first folder was 1945, not 1940 as in the fourth and subsequent editions. This resulted in a very crowded presentation in the first folder, which was actually weakened by having too many holes! The Washington Quarter series also received a continuation folder beginning with 1946.

The third edition folders produced circa 1946-50 have been the most problematic for me as a collector, since there doesn't seem to be much consistency in their features. Perhaps the lingering wartime shortages affected the availability of matching materials. It's evident when examining these folders that not all of the component parts were printed at the same time, as a trend toward anachronism is clearly seen in the folders I've assigned to this period. Some elements from the second edition were evidently combined with others from the fourth edition, resulting in a number of hybrid folders. Whitman must have printed the various components only as they were needed, assembling them with other pieces from earlier print runs. This makes sense from a business standpoint, as nothing is wasted, but it wreaked havoc with my cataloging efforts until I had enough folders to sort it all out. The most peculiar folders are those which were slow sellers

such as those for half cents and silver three-cent pieces, since these remained in stock the longest before being reprinted.

Some elements are common to the majority of third edition folders. These include a serif style catalog number and a border design placed close to the spine. The covers are most often a light navy blue with a grained finish, but some have the older royal blue or blue-gray covers. Their backing papers are either brownish gray or medium gray. Titles debuting in this edition include those for Roosevelt Dimes and U. S. coins by type. The two type coin folders could be purchased separately at the regular price of 25 cents apiece, but they were also available in a boxed set introduced in 1948 and priced at one dollar. This included the two folders, a monograph on type collecting by R. S. Yeoman and a slipcase to enclose them. All of the components were printed in the familiar color scheme of silver on blue. I've dated the fourth edition folders to approximately 1948-53, a period overlapping with that of the third edition and reflecting the unsettled nature of the folders during those years. Fourth edition folders are more easy to assign, however, as their components generally match the following criteria: Matte, navy blue covers with a grained finish, closely placed left borders and small, serif style catalog numbers. Their backing papers are similar in color to those of the third edition.

New titles in this edition include those for all current denominations from cent through half dollar but without printing below the openings. This was an extension of the plain folder for silver dollars, which had evidently been successful. The introduction of the Franklin Half Dollar in 1948 also resulted in a new title. The difficulty of completing the U. S. type set folders was addressed with one for 20th Century types alone. Also added, beginning in 1950, were four titles for Canadian coins. Current issues were common in the border states, and Whitman responded with folders for large cents, small cents, nickel five-cent pieces and silver five-cent pieces. The hobby was growing rapidly during the late 1940s and early 1950s, and none of the existing titles had yet been dropped.

Fifth edition folders were introduced in 1953 and corresponded to Whitman's first price increase from 25 to 35 cents. This edition became perhaps the most widely produced of all in terms of sheer numbers, as it ran until about 1959 and witnessed a tremendous period of growth in the hobby. Unused examples of fifth edition folders are still common in dealers' stocks and may include titles now quite obscure, such as the folder for silver three-cent pieces. Never a good seller, it was discontinued sometime after the sixth edition, though lingering in Whitman's list of titles for years afterward.

Fifth edition folders have covers identical to those in the fourth edition, though their ornate border is distant from the spine and they're known

# Whitman Coin Folders



**51 for U.S. Coins  
24 for Canadian Coins  
18 for British Coins  
5 for Mexican Coins**

*All coins are visible*



**35¢ each**

*...all at one time!*

Whitman 35 cent coin folders are the most economical way to protect and classify a coin collection. The folders open flat, and all coins can be viewed at one time. When closed, they are book-size for convenient storing. Each folder includes a page of information.

**WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY, Racine, Wis.  
WORLD'S LEADING NUMISMATIC PUBLISHERS**



Advertisement from the *Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, January 1963

only in navy blue. Their catalog numbers are of a serif style font and are either narrow or broad, the latter evidently printed at a later date. All have medium gray backing papers, the color used henceforth through the eleventh edition. The fifth edition is the last in which the endflaps do not include a line drawing of the coin type (though the foreign titles continued to be unillustrated in later editions).

The list of titles was expanded dramatically during these years. New ones include a two-part series for Liberty Seated Quarters and a four-part series for Liberty Seated Half Dollars. The Canadian line saw the greatest growth, and all denominations from 1858 to date could now be collected in their entirety. A folder was produced for complete date sets of the bronze coins of the Maritime provinces, as well, though it was evidently a poor seller and was discontinued after the early 1960s.

The sixth edition debuted around 1957 and experienced some overlap with the fifth edition as the likely result of leftover component parts. The most readily identifiable feature of sixth edition folders is the presence of a line drawing of each particular coin type which appears on the endflap. Though this illustration was continued on all subsequent editions, only in this one did it appear in combination with an untitled spine. The folders for world coins lack illustrations, though they can be dated through other means, such as the listing of available titles. Sixth edition folders have navy blue covers, as do all subsequent Whitman folders to date, aside from the some of the custom orders printed by the company for other distributors.

A number of changes occurred during the sixth edition's run. The first of these was the elimination of glue within the openings in the cardboard panels. Perhaps responding to complaints from collectors, Whitman devised a method of affixing the backing papers to the panels in such a way that the glue was placed only between the openings and thus did not come into contact with the coins. This change was effected around 1959, and both versions can be collected for most titles within the sixth edition. Another subtle but quite collectable change was the resequencing of date and mint listings within each folder. Until about 1961, the openings were sequenced by mint as P, S and D. After 1961, the arrangement familiar today was adopted, the openings being sequenced as P, D and S. As with the glued and unglued openings, most titles within the sixth edition are available in either printing sequence. Some titles which are common in one format are quite rare in the other. A complete listing of the varieties known to me may be found in the catalog which follows this narrative.

Produced until 1963, the sixth edition folders represent the apex of both coin collecting as a popular hobby and Whitman's line of hobby products. Though other titles were added in later editions, this occurred only after many less successful ones had been dropped, and the sixth edition offers

the most expansive list of titles for the collector of coin folders. In the U. S. series, the new titles included a "ONE-A-YEAR" folder for cents from 1909 to date, nickels from 1913, dimes from 1916 and quarters from 1916. With coin collecting having become so widespread, the chances of completing all dates and mints were now quite small, and the single opening per date concept sought to address this shrinking availability. Silver dollars were now collectable by date and mint, as Whitman introduced a four-part series for Morgans and a single folder for Peace Dollars. A type set folder for Canadian coins was new in the sixth edition, as were both a type folder and a complete line of date and mint folders for Newfoundland. The modern coinage of Great Britain was added beginning in 1961. Folders for collecting farthings through shillings by date were available, though the six pence and shilling folders only went back to 1902. Date set folders for Mexican one-centavo and five-centavo pieces were introduced in 1963, but these were evidently unsuccessful and were quickly dropped from the line. Some series, both U. S. and Canadian, which were then ongoing were supplemented with new folders to accommodate additional coins. For example, the Jefferson Nickel folder was terminated at 1961 and a second one added for coins dating 1962 and later.

The seventh edition was short-lived, lasting only from 1963 to 1964, and it's likely that only the few titles I've already encountered were actually printed. On the listing which follows this narrative, I've included most of the titles then current, but readers will note that only a few of them have been confirmed as actually existing in this edition. The folders of the seventh edition are absolutely identical to those in the sixth, save for the addition of their titles repeated on the spine in silver letters. These folders are readily distinguished from later ones, all of which have printed spines, by the absence of any Whitman logo on the seventh edition folders.

A new folder was added for the collecting of Lincoln Memorial Cents from 1959 onward. The only other new U. S. title for this edition was prompted by the introduction of the Kennedy Half Dollar in 1964. One folder each for British Commonwealth coins of the farthing, halfpenny and penny size are listed for this edition, but I've only seen these in later editions. Using existing panels holed for one series to cover another by simply printing a different cover is a bit of economy practiced by both Whitman and its competitors to the present day.

The eighth edition was identical to the seventh, with one exception: The name "Whitman" was added near the bottom of each folder's cover. Lasting only from 1964 to 1965, this is another edition which is notable for rarities. Again, I've listed most of the possible titles in the catalog which follows, but many remain unconfirmed. Slow-moving titles such as those for two-cent and three-cent pieces, Bust Dimes, and so on were probably

not printed after the sixth edition, but these old folders were still listed as part of the line for many years afterward. When they turn up today, they're often as not in unused condition. Date collection folders for Australian halfpennies through crowns were added beginning in 1965, but these were evidently poor sellers and didn't last long.

One of the most peculiar items in the Whitman line of folders appeared in this edition. Called a "COIN SIZE TESTING CHART," this folder included openings of various sizes which corresponded to the sizes available in Whitman's new line of snap-together, polystyrene holders for single coins. Each opening was marked with the denomination that it fitted and the catalog number of the corresponding plastic holder. Collectors could test a coin's size by placing it in the opening which fit best and would thus know in advance which plastic holder to use. Two versions of this testing folder were produced, one in the conventional format of Whitman folders and one which was exactly half as tall.

When the ninth edition folders appeared in 1965, the coin hobby was falling on hard times. The collapse of the market in uncirculated rolls, combined with the rapid disappearance of older coins, caused many of the newly acquired collectors to drift away. The sales of coin folders slumped dramatically and, with just a few exceptions, most titles in this edition are scarce and many are entirely unknown.

The ninth edition lasted until 1967 and is distinguished by three features. In place of the "Whitman" logo on their covers, ninth edition folders bear a small eagle logo, a line drawing of the coin type and the small figures 35, indicating their price. The ninth edition represents the Whitman folder at the very apex of quality. Attractive graphics, combined with superior construction and cleanly cut holes, make these the most pleasing of all the various editions. By this time, Whitman had worked out most of the problems with the earlier folders, yet the quality of the materials being used was equal to that with which the folders were launched in 1940. Later folders, particularly those produced in the past 20 years, simply lack the strength and precision cutting of these vintage items.

Though still listed at this time, a number of unpopular titles had probably been dropped from production. These include half cents, large cents, two-cent and three-cent pieces, Shield Nickels, half dimes, Bust Dimes and Liberty Seated Quarters. Other slow sellers were apparently reprinted in this edition only as needed. An example is part three of the Liberty Seated Half Dollar series, the only one known in this edition of the four which comprised the complete collection. No foreign titles are known in this edition. Enough examples of the earlier editions may have been on hand at the time to meet demand, as some foreign titles did reappear in later editions. It was around this time that Whitman became a division of Western

Publishing, and this new relationship probably accounts for the change in logo which appeared with the tenth edition. The eagle logo was replaced by a large, stylized globe encasing the name Whitman. The small line drawing of the coin type continued, though the price was now elevated to read 39. New with this edition was a feature which reflected the rapid disappearance of silver coins and all older designs. A rating system was applied to each title: A solid star printed in silver at the upper right corner of the cover indicated a "Basic" collection, one which was relatively easy to complete. "Secondary" collections were designated with a skeletal star, while "Advanced" titles bore no star.

The tenth edition was extremely short-lived. All the ones I've seen were evidently printed in 1967 or very early in 1968. Coming as it did during a slump in the coin market, the abortive tenth edition has proved to be the rarest overall, with the possible exception of the first. Only half a dozen titles are known to me, all of them for the more recent series which were most likely to be in print at any given time. Unworn examples have proved impossible to find, as all of the folders printed were probably sold to retail customers and put to use. There were no new titles, and none were printed for foreign series.

1968 ushered in the eleventh edition with a greatly revised series of folders. Existing titles had always borne their original copyright date, regardless of edition, but these were now updated to read 1968. Western Publishing was now clearly indicated as the producer of these folders. The Whitman globe logo was retained on their covers, but its size was reduced substantially. The small coin illustration was continued on each folder for U. S. coins, as was the line drawing which had appeared on the endflap since the sixth edition. Foreign titles continued without illustrations in either place, and a few of the U. S. titles lacked cover illustrations. The blue-gray backing paper of the earlier entries in this edition was replaced by a very dark, navy blue backing during the 1970s, and transitional folders exist for many titles.

An innovative feature of the eleventh edition, one prompted by customer complaints regarding the earlier folders, was the new "snap-loc" style of hole cut into each folder. Plain-edge coins, such as cents and nickels, tended to fall out of their holes in the earlier editions, particularly when the coins were worn. The new style of hole was slightly beveled inward, so that while it was difficult to get a coin into the hole initially, it was unlikely that the coin would fall out later. This feature has been retained in all subsequent editions.

The eleventh edition lasted more than ten years, and most titles are fairly plentiful today. The exceptions are the two folders for Barber Half Dollars,

which were discontinued early in this edition. Several subtle variations occurred over the life of this edition, and I've attempted to reconstruct their chronology. The earliest folders have the trademark symbol "T.M." in tiny letters near the logo on the cover and a price marked "39" (1968-70). The T.M. was then replaced by a letter "R" for registered, though the price 39 was retained (1970). Finally, the price indication was dropped after about 1971, as inflation prompted a series of price increase throughout the decade. Another code which appeared in the upper right corner of the cover adjacent to the rating star consisted of one of several geometric symbols such as a square or a delta. These symbols may have indicated different printers or different materials, but the folders appear otherwise identical. Attempting to collect all of these various combinations for each title would be a maddening process. While I've retained some examples of each, I've only listed the basic titles in my catalog.

Several anachronistic entries appeared in this edition, including the "ONE-A-YEAR" folders for nickels and for quarters. Though they bear the older "Whitman logo" on their covers, all of their other components indicate that they date from the early 1970s. This may have been another example of using up older components to fill a specific order, as the other "ONE-A-YEAR" titles are known only in the sixth and seventh editions. Curiously, part two of the large cent collection reappeared in the eleventh edition and was probably made to order. The only new title in this edition was prompted by the introduction of the Eisenhower Dollar in 1971. All of the Canadian titles seem to have remained current, though not all have been confirmed. The line of British titles had been discontinued, though a couple are known in this edition, probably printed to order. Also long gone by this time were all titles for the Maritime provinces, Mexico and Australia.

The discontinuation of the various British titles prompted a custom order from the Don Hirschorn Company early in the eleventh edition period. Folders were printed for each of the old pre-decimal British series in the conventional Whitman format and color scheme. These folders were identical to regular Whitman folders, though they bore a unique series of catalog numbers beginning with numeral 8. Distributed only by Hirschorn in limited numbers, these are quite rare today. Only the undated folder for six pence pieces has been seen by me.

Though Whitman folders have been printed with navy blue covers since the early 1950s, this shade of blue gradually darkened over the years, something not evident until old and new folders are compared side by side. The darkest shade is the current one, introduced with the greatly revised twelfth edition. In production since 1978, the twelfth edition is thus the longest-

running one of all. These folders feature a very large photographic illustration on their covers in place of the small line drawing used previously, but they retain the small globe logo familiar from earlier editions. Their titles are now printed in mixed capital and lower-case letters, while previous editions were usually titled all in capitals. Early entries in the twelfth edition have the familiar medium gray backing paper, but ones produced more recently have backing paper which is charcoal gray. For the first 15 years or so of the twelfth edition, these folders were of the traditional Whitman size, unchanged since 1940. In recent years, however, newly printed folders have been about a quarter inch taller. As with the subtle color changes, this feature is only detectable when the old and new folders are placed side by side.

Aside from the necessary supplemental folders for our current, long-running series of coins, the only new titles has been that for the combined collection of Eisenhower/Anthony Dollars, as well as various speciality folders to mark Whitman anniversaries or ones custom printed for other distributors. Dropped early in this edition were the folders for Barber Dimes and Quarters, as well as those for Morgan and Peace Dollars. The folders for Walking Liberty Half Dollars are printed only as needed and are frequently not available. All regular production of Canadian series folders was dropped after the eleventh edition, but Whitman currently produces folders for Canadian small cents and nickels under the "Star" brand for dealer Virg Marshall III, and these may be collected as part of the twelfth edition.

With so many older titles having been dropped, Whitman has begun to reuse their catalog numbers when adding supplemental folders for ongoing series. For example, when the first folder for Roosevelt Dimes was terminated at 1964, the second installment from 1965 to date was assigned number 9034, previously held by part two of the Liberty Seated Quarter collection.

The "One-A-Year" series was briefly revived for this edition, though I've confirmed only the folder for dimes. That for quarters was updated so that it commenced with 1932 instead of 1916. The long-running series of Washington Quarters appears in three distinctive versions within the twelfth edition. In earlier editions, this collection had been broken down as follows: 1932-45, 1946-59 and 1960 to date. In order to provide a folder for the clad issues alone, the second part was now extended through 1964 and the third then commenced with 1965. This breakdown proved impractical, and the first two parts were then realigned to cover the years 1932-47 and 1948-64, respectively. When the revised third folder was filled, it was cut off at 1987 and a fourth was added which commences with 1988. All of these

breakdowns may be collected within the twelfth edition, as seen in my accompanying catalog.

The twelfth edition is rich in custom orders printed by Whitman for other distributors and collectable as part of the Whitman series. Krause Publications has ordered customized folders for its five-year anniversaries since 1982, these typically included a date and mint collection of Lincoln Memorial Cents, as well as a commemorative medal in one or two base metals. Since 1991, the U. S. Mint has commissioned folders for cents 1959 to date and nickels 1962 to date. These attractive folders are printed in green, and their covers bear a large Treasury seal in silver. All of these custom orders make no reference to Whitman Coin Products or Western Publishing, Inc., but the materials and assembly are unmistakably Whitman's.

Recognizing the heritage that it possessed in its long line of coin folders, Whitman produced a miniature folder in 1990 commemorating the 50th anniversary of its product. This souvenir included just one opening in each of its three panels, these to be filled with cents dated 1940, 1965 and 1990, respectively. Handed out at the 1990 ANA convention in Seattle, they proved quite popular with visitors. In a similar vein, Whitman produced a miniature, two-panel folder in 1996 to mark the 50th anniversary edition of *A Guide Book of United States Coins*, by R. S. Yeoman. Each panel was cut to hold dimes dated 1946 and 1996, respectively. These were distributed at the 1996 ANA convention in Denver. While the first ones given away actually included the two coins, these ran out quickly, and many persons received only the folder. While strictly speaking it marks the anniversary of a book, this neat little item is still quite collectable for the coin folder enthusiast.

This is quite a challenging collection to assemble, though currently not an expensive one. The greatest costs seem to be in shipping and telephone bills. It's difficult for most dealers to quickly distinguish the various editions, and I end up with numerous duplicates that are less costly to keep than to return.

What follows is a complete listing by editions of all the various titles I believe to have been printed or are likely to have been printed. Those which I've confirmed to exist through firsthand observation are indicated with a plus (+) sign. The titles are written exactly as they appear on the front cover of each folder, including italics and both upper case and lower case lettering. For those editions which bear duplicate titles on the spine, these titles were often abbreviated from the one on the cover. Only the cover titles are reproduced in this catalog.

*to be continued...*

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5	23	37
6	24	38
7	25	39
8	26	40
9	27	41
10	28	42
11	29	43
12	30	44
13	31	45
14	32	48
15	33	49
20	34	50
21	35	51
22	36	52

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# THE ASYLUM

*Quarterly Journal of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society*

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Volume XVI, No. 3

Summer, 1998

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## CONTENTS

President's Message & New NBS Members Michael Sullivan & David Hirt . . . . .	2
Some Random Numismatic Reminiscences - Part 2 Randolph Zander . . . . .	3
The Printer's Devil Joel J. Orosz . . . . .	13
Hitch a Ride on the NBS Information Super-highway . . . . .	18
Moving Into the New Millennium: Numismatics in the Year 2000 Arthur Crawmer . . . . .	19
NBS Annual Meeting at ANA: Portland, August 8, 1998 Colonel Bill Murray . . . . .	23
Announcing the New Device: [BOOK] . . . . .	24
NBS Constitution and By-Laws . . . . .	center insert
The Development of the Coin Album - Part Three David W. Lange . . . . .	25
Board of Trustees Decisions at the 1998 ANA Convention . . . . .	41
Between the Covers Colonel Bill Murray . . . . .	42
Letter to the Editor . . . . .	42
NBS Meeting Participants: Cincinnati, March 20, 1998 . . . . .	43

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# **BALLOT: Constitution and By-Laws Numismatic Bibliomania Society**

**RESPONSE MUST BE POSTMARKED BY: October 24th, 1998**

The Numismatic Bibliomania Society Board of Trustees recommends a YES VOTE to the revised Constitution and By-Laws included with this quarterly issue of *The Asylum*. The changes contained within the document clarify many of the "norms" established by NBS over the last 15 years, address elections, and fulfills other information requirements.



**YES VOTE: I Support the Changes Proposed by the NBS Board of Trustees.**



## NO VOTE

**SEND BALLOTS TO:** Dave Hirt, Secretary-Treasurer  
Numismatic Bibliomania Society  
5911 Quinn Orchard Road  
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Pete Smith, 2424 4th St. NE, #12, Minneapolis, MN 55418  
Frank Van Zandt, 6032 Van Zandt Road, Livonia, NY 14487

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## THE ASYLUM

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Summer, 1998

Editor: George F. Kolbe  
P. O. Drawer 3100, Crestline, CA 92325  
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**N. B. S. Membership:** \$15.00 annual dues in North America, \$20.00 elsewhere. Members receive all issues of the current volume. Requests for membership should be submitted to the Secretary-Treasurer.

## *President's Message*

The Portland ANA Convention was an outstanding one for NBS, combining an entertaining and informative annual club meeting with excellent attendance and five interesting numismatic literature exhibits. With nearly 250 members and growing, NBS is charting a path to continued strength and success. Overall, this was a great showing for NBS. Recognition is due several people:

- Myron Xenos- the club speaker on Federal Brand Exchange and Michael Kolman.
- John Eshbach, Wayne Homren, and P. Scott Rubin- displayed numismatic literature.
- Joel Orosz- presented the 1997 NBS Writer's Award at the meeting.
- *The Asylum*- won third place in the highly competitive field of Specialty Club Publications.
- (*Editor's note*: Michael Sullivan exhibited numismatic literature and won first place in that category and also delivered an informative talk at the club meeting).

Everyone should look ahead to ANA 1999 in Chicago! It will be a great show.

The NBS Board of Trustees continues to work on numerous projects designed to continue our club's growth and prosperity. A twelve month project has been completed to revise the club's By-Laws subject to ratification by the membership. The changes clarify many of the "norms" established by NBS over the last fifteen years, addressing elections and responsibilities of officers and board members, and fulfills information requirements previously overlooked. Enclosed with this issue of *The Asylum* is a ballot for your vote on the proposed By-Laws and Constitution. The Board recommends a YES vote. Please return your ballot by the return date indicated. The Board of Trustees met during the Portland ANA Convention and a report on their actions will be found on page 41.

## *New NBS Members*

Michael J. Agneta; Ashford Financial Group; Leonard Augsburger; George Bowen; Mike Bozovich; Donald Carbonetti; Ken Chylinski; William Daehn; Richard Demott; Bruce Haxler; Andrew MacKay; Reed Marton; Kevin Munro; Michael Rae; Paul Schulte; Stephen Searle; Larry Sekulich; Jon Soden; Stephen Tanenbaum; Kent Wright.

We have lost by death long-time member William J. Macomber.

David Hirt, *Secretary-Treasurer*

## Some Random Numismatic Reminiscences - Part 2

Randolph Zander

Ben Douglas, a general dealer in DC, may have seemed unobtrusive at first glance, but he was a decisive factor for the good of our hobby in the Middle Atlantic region. After a mail-order business for years, in 1952 he opened a shop on 12th Street near Pennsylvania Avenue, later moved to 11th Street opposite the old Washington Star Building and, to everyone's loss and sorrow, retired 25 or 30 years later, turning the premises over to Earl Blaisdell. During most of those years Walt Mason manned the counter and added authority and good spirit to the enterprise. Ben's shop was for a good while our downtown numismatic club.

Ben was a bird-like man with one glass eye which made him tilt his head quizzically. Everyone agreed with the old saw: Ben saw more with one good eye than most of us could with two. He carried a good general, chiefly U. S. stock, strong in paper money, and always well represented in Morgan dollars, many of which the boys at the Treasury currency window would from time to time bring round. Once they even found a bag of 1859-O liberty-seated dollars, and this created quite a stir.

Ben, in tandem with Tom Warfield on Saratoga Street in Baltimore, did much to police the trade in our region, keeping the lads honest by persuasion and precept. More than anyone Ben set in motion the annual Washington Area show at Lanham; competition for tables at it soon became fierce. Ben was a prime mover in the launching and support of the annual Washington Numismatic Conference that he, the Stefanellis and a few of us kept alive and healthy for half a dozen years. We always found first-rate speakers who were glad to grace our meeting in the Smithsonian's elegant auditorium.

Ben went out of his way to support research: e.g. he contributed to Eric Newman's book on Early American Currency, and lent a helping hand to Charlie Affleck of Winchester with his two volumes on Virginia Paper.

The picture may seem routine and pedestrian. The fact is that no news is generally good news. Even discounting kindly memory's tricks, our metropolitan area numismatic community lived a golden age in those productive and agreeable years.

The time was too soon over: Tom Warfield died suddenly in his fifties. It was a blow to everyone; some of Tom's Eastern Shore customers simply put their coins away and stopped collecting. Ben, bereaved, began to show signs of the degenerative illness that forced him into retirement, and gradually he came to live as in a cocoon in the home that did its best to ease his clouded life.



For three or four years in the late 1940s Felix Chruscz of Hamburg advertised his wholesale business in huge bargain lots of European coins, tokens etc. In those austere and chaotic days for Europe, he scavenged his abundant material, much of it, from German and East European refugees. This ephemeral source dried up as society stabilized. Mostly Chruscz's material was junk, but enough decent coins and tokens fell through the sieve to make him a fairly interesting if unpredictable source for an alert collector or small dealer. The refugee flow came from the east, so once in a while Chruscz offered Russian lots – hardly ever with overlooked rarities but almost always with unusual tokens and scarce dates of the sort that Alexander Shishkin has since deciphered and made more collectible.



The numismatic career of the redoubtable Burdette G. Johnson of St. Louis closed just as mine was about to begin. He died one day in 1948, riding the trolley to work. Burdette Johnson was rather more important than nearly all of his better known contemporaries, he carried a vast stock at all levels and of all series, his knowledge was encyclopedic, his memory photographic, he personally took the trouble – maybe I should say gave himself the pleasure – to attribute tens of thousands of coins, often rather modest ones, He was generous with help and advice, all the while he shunned publicity and flamboyance. Eric Newman writes that Johnson was his early mentor; Jim Kelly, who founded the Paramount company, was an apprentice of his; and the heirs of Virgil Brand chose Johnson for the delicate and Solomonic job of seeing to a logical and equitable division between them of Brand's colossal collection. Johnson chose to take most of his fee in the form of coins – a step that left him with a stock unequalled in this country.

It is a measure of my green innocence that I was unaware of the great man till one day Albert Baldwin mentioned him and was astonished that I didn't react. He and Jim Kelly visited London regularly and were heavy buyers at the Baldwins'. Johnson responded cordially when I introduced myself, and for several years before he died he used to send elegant Russian approval selections of chiefly Brand material. I had to work hard to jettison lesser things so I could generate money for what Johnson offered – an early 1796 novodel cipher set from original dies for \$40, a Menshikov novodel grivennik for \$25, a lovely original 1726 plate grivna for \$100, etc.

Several U. S. dealers in foreign coins made a good living from lots they bought in the early 50s from the B. G. Johnson estate. I am quite sure, for

example, that most of the fine series of Tatnall's copper novodels that Hans Schulman auctioned later came from the Brand-Johnson-Johnson estate source. I was late in joining the queue. It was not till 1955 that I approached Eric Newman, who was handling the Burdette Johnson remnants. He showed me in his basement a tall cabinet with wide, multi-channel coin drawers, full of oblong manila envelopes with succinct attributions usually in Johnson's hand. At a guess there were close to 10,000 of them, all containing minor coins, three quarters copper. A spot check sufficed to show the hoard was eminently worthwhile. Once home, I found various good things I had overlooked – a long run of Mexicans including a couple of dozen close to unc. Maximilian five and 10-centavos of several mints, some Anticosti pennies, many hacienda tokens, lots of early Portuguese India and Tranquebar crudities, a handy run of 17th century English tokens, etc. Earlier dealers had gone after the big and obvious things. But so far as I remember, surprisingly there was nothing notable Russian. Trying to match my wits against Johnson's was a losing proposition – I could find not a single mis-attribution.



Ole P. Eklund in Spokane was a sort of American Pridmore or Valentine. He lived alone in a neat small house, shelves of steins lined the walls. On modest blue-collar earnings he put together during the first four decades of our century a vast and authoritative collection which today would be valued in the high six figures. He became a recognized arbiter of patterns and out-of-the-way rarities in his field. His publications, running to many hundreds of pages, included a first-rate catalogue of Mexican hacienda tokens and, in *The Numismatist*, an extensive series of solid country-by-country works on copper coins based chiefly on Neumann's standard work. Before Krause these, in offprint form, were for years essential references.

O. P.'s celebrated universal collection of base-metal coins and tokens, the fruit of a single-minded lifetime of acquiring, studying and classifying, included a superb Russian copper series, certainly the best in America at the time. All his coins he held in the sulphur-free envelopes that he made by hand, carrying full attributions and references in his neat India-ink manuscript. (Nowadays, a coin in its original Eklund envelope automatically carries a deserved premium).

In the late 1940s, old and tubercular, O. P. began sadly to break up his collection, holding, however, each series intact. He gave preference to collectors who promised not to break up the group. Howard Gibbs of Pittsburgh – a highly competitive collector – often used a letterhead identifying himself as a museum, and this enabled him to get on Eklund's right side.

So three or four years later, for example, when I bought Howard's thousands of Italian-states copper minors, I found two thirds of them still in Eklund envelopes with a Gibbs rubber-stamp surcharge. Myself, I had no luck with O. P. and his Russians which I very much coveted; they would have more than tripled my own growing collection. O. P. was certain I would peddle the coins, so his choice fell on one Ostrander, a Swede like himself, from California. Ostrander faithfully kept the collection intact for over 40 years, it went eventually en bloc to Bjarne Ahlström in Stockholm who readily found appreciative Scandinavian buyers.<sup>13</sup>



Even discounting for bad judgment, Hans Schulman seemed always to attract bad luck. He foresightedly left the family firm in Amsterdam in 1939 and set up shop in New York. Wayte Raymond, out of esteem for the Firm, was generous in helping Hans get started. Hans should have made his million – Lord knows he worked hard enough. In spite of a famous name, and in as favorable a numismatic time and venue as one could imagine, he appeared ever to be skating on the edge. He tended to promise too much for collections he was chasing for auction, the women who divorced him left him nearly broke. His numismatic learning was deep and broad, but he could not resist embroidering, for the most part counterproductively. After the war he unnecessarily displayed coolness toward his cousin Jacques in Amsterdam who had just passed through rough times.

When King Farouk was thrown out of Egypt and his coins, stamps, pornographic comic books and other memorabilia were confiscated Hans, as one of the insatiable monarch's main suppliers, was left holding the bag for hundreds of thousands. He travelled to Cairo; there, for a cliff-hanging year and a half with valor and virtuosity he managed to charm Nagub's stern Government and recoup. As a bonus, in Egypt he met and married Zita, loved and respected by all.

Hans was a pioneer in the art of tempting small places to issue supposed coins for the numismatic trade. An early target was Andorra. Its coinage carried portraits of its feudal lords, notable for their close resemblance to Han's features. I fail to find these in the current Krause Phone Book.

Many turbulent years later, overwhelmed and physically threatened, Hans tiptoed away from the Schulman Coin and Mint and out of America. He and Zita rusticated tranquilly in Alicante, Hans served very effectively as part-time European stringer for some of the American numismatic press. He created and maintained a numismatic card file (like the one the Schulman firm in Amsterdam built and maintained over three generations). It ran to the hundreds of thousands of entries. I believe Hans' Kartei went eventu-

ally to the A. N. A. When things cooled down in New York Hans circumspectly came back, old friends were glad to see him, and he and Zita spent their emeritus years together in relative comfort and at peace in West End Avenue.

All of us in Hans' glory days – mainly the 1950s through the 1970s – dealt with and on balance rather liked the man. I bought a great deal from him and through his long series of a hundred or more well got-up sales. Some of these he ran with Abner Kreisberg. Cumulatively they were full of wonderful things, many originating from Brand and Burdette Johnson.

I remember especially one early Russian deal of ours: in 1947 he very thoughtfully sent me unsolicited a heavy wooden box full of hundreds of Russian medals along with some miscellaneous Russian coins, obviously part of the torrent of numismatic flotsam and jetsam that flowed from Europe to America during and for awhile after the war. We easily came to terms. I had a glorious time with the material; out of the lot for myself I held back the crude, locally made one-and-a-half ruble size silver medal for victory in the Persian War of 1829. Most of the rest got distributed among the Russian emigration of the time – chiefly Serge Glad, Alexander Stakhovich, Ian Bekisz and the legendary Vladimir Gvidovich von Richter.



Howard Gibbs, a Pittsburgh coal dealer, was a loner, a sort of numismatic flying Dutchman of the middle 50-odd years of our century – a personality ever aloof, coldly impersonal, skilled, energetic, tenacious, well read and a master of detail. Though twice married, his true, lifelong bride was numismatics. When I first knew him, early in the 50s, he had acquired extraordinary speed and accuracy in attribution. He had built up at least a dozen large collections and was already selling some off (through Hans Schulman in 1950 I bought his fine Italian coppers and a group of scudi and talleri. All were perfectly presented and there were no duds). Through the years several such groups went under the hammer here and abroad, all impeccable. The composition of Howard's holdings – stock and collection – was always transient.

Yet in some, less well mapped, series Howard was capable of bold , so help me deliberate, improvisation. He was drawn to odd and curious currency and to cut, counterstamped and necessity coins. He spent a great deal of time, energy and travel to research this odd and curious, or primitive, field and to buy. He produced a guide book on the subject. It genuinely fascinated and challenged him. Eventually the bulk of Howard's vast collection of this material was catalogued for auction by Hans Schulman in his permissive style. The well known items presented no problem – the

larins, tea bricks and ghizzy pennies. But dubious pieces at the frontier of knowledge were more often than not given the benefit of the doubt.

The position was much the same with the cut and counterstamped pieces. Again, Hans catalogued and auctioned this element, conforming to Howard's attributions. This was in 1966, and there must have been over 2000 lots. The Caribbean mafia bought heavily, mainly through agents. The percentage of returns was phenomenal. Howard's Scottish counterstamps on Hispanic duros, on the other hand, auctioned in 1960, were unexceptionable and fetched such extraordinary prices that Uncle Fred Baldwin, who came to the sale expressly for them, felt unable to compete.

Howard was not the only advanced numismatist with this curious blind spot. So knowledgeable and discriminating a man as the late Willy Fuchs beguiled himself into a prolonged and stubborn defense of the egregious modern fake Russian coppers of the 1980s; he was so fascinated by the Constantine ruble that, hypnotized by a facsimile of it, he suspended his otherwise shrewd judgment.

Once one accepts that this eccentricity does not prejudice the whole man, one can view Howard Gibbs in a more understanding light. And in fact, though I never found him particularly sympathetic or forthcoming, I was able to buy a great number of useful coins at fair, though never giveaway, prices. Let us close with two Russian episodes that sum up: Howard bought the Reichel/Schubert Tolstoi Constantine ruble from Horace Brand and sold it to Andrew Kelpsh in the mid-1930s. It was a famous coin and a cut-and-dried deal. On the other hand, Howard bought at the Farouk sale a blatant forged plate ruble and poltina. I cannot picture his buying them with resale in mind: he was adding to his odd-and-curious collection and he applied a different standard.



Arnold Kowalski of Brooklyn made a splash for a time as a high pressure dealer in foreign coins around 1960. A former teacher of music in New York City's school system, he launched his numismatic enterprise based at the start on the fine collection of Russian coins his father put up as a grub-stake. Hans Schulman took him under his wing. For quite awhile Arnold was a prime source for choice Russian pieces, along with scarce European crowns. I think of the many beauties I bought or traded from him.

Arnold was a devoutly observant Jew, always broadmindedly so. Once, on his way home from a steamy summer coin show in the deep south, with his big circa-1950 sedan riding low in the back and reeking, he stopped to see me. As he threw open the trunk for a box of coins, there in the Virginia glare, tucked among the numismatic luggage, were 14 overripe, strongly

aromatic, Smithfield hams he was bringing north on spec for New York clients.

Arnold worked hard, his coin business was developing satisfactorily, he made all the shows, he deserved to succeed, but the word was that midnight gin rummy sessions after the floor had closed did him in at last. Some years after he had dropped from the numismatic scene Arnold came into view as a successful expert in Chinese antiquities – proof that every man deserves a second chance.<sup>14</sup>



William Schirmer was a retired tool-maker, he still kept his instruments and gear in perfect order. Long divorced, he lived alone on the third floor of a somewhat come-down stately old Brooklyn brownstone on St. James' Place. He took dinner usually at a Norwegian Seamen's home in the neighborhood where the piece de resistance was whale meat. He lived surrounded by a densely displayed array of artifacts and memorabilia – tons of them. Of all these, I think his coin collection took first place – Russians mainly, plus a good U. S. series and a smattering of German coins.

Uncle Billy, as his landlady called him, systematically scoured the market. He looked in on the New York dealers regularly and he received lists from the rest of us. I believe he did not go to auctions, He knew he was a determined man who liked to have his way; I think he suspected that this stubbornness might get the better of him. When he got to be three or four years older than I am now, he reluctantly decided to give up his well-selected collection of several thousands of Russian coins. I came up to go over it with him; from a half to a third of the coins had come from me in the first place. It was then that I learned the Schirmer method of coin conservancy.

Each piece was firmly sewed in cruciform fashion with fish line onto a stout paper board – the board, about 18" x 24", accommodated a considerable weight. The boards were stacked high on a closet floor. Uncle Billy could admire only the upside of each of his pieces. Esthetics rather than a set rule determined which side got displayed. The coins, of course, all showed signs of "fish line friction" when cut free. This method is not unknown – one used to see Chinese cash so mounted, for example, but Uncle Billy carried it to new heights.

I brought the boards home, interleaved with paper towels, in the trunk of my car, driving gingerly. Schirmerization turned out to be not as disfiguring as I had feared. As I recycled the coins to new owners I mentioned the blemish in my price lists, hardly anyone was intimidated, and within a year nature had almost cured the symptom on whatever remnants I still held.

My friend lived to be almost 90, in good spirit and as much his own man as ever. His last two years he spent spaciously in half of a remodeled old schoolhouse near his daughter in Ohio, with the bulkier parts of his non-numismatic collection still ready to hand.



Paul Eden, a neighbor in Lynchburg, Va., a little after 1950 chose as his specialty the collecting and study of dime-size coins, mainly post-1800 – neglected pieces, often scarcer than the corresponding crowns. Except for U. S. and Canadian dimes, in those days not many dealers bothered with such coins individually. Albert Baldwin was a notable exception: he was always ready to go out of his way to help a man who was doing serious work. He was taken with Paul's competence and zeal, and he sent him many choice things from stock and from auction lots, particularly of colonial collections such as Taffs. I did my best by Paul, especially after I had organized the remnants of B. G. Johnson's stock of minors. By 1962 Paul had assembled an impressive collection, he had published a couple dozen articles on his subject, he had identified unpublished varieties, and was widely recognized. In that year, a muscular degenerative disease struck him, and a little later he turned to me to take over his material. It included many proof British Commonwealth and other rarities that few then recognized as such.

Paul had 75 or 80 silver grivenniks. Of course I saved many of these and was struck by the relatively high incidence of choice pieces of 1797 into the 1850s. Incredibly, I haven't the slightest notion of how or when I finally sold these – I find no reference to them in my sales lists then or of the years following. I have to hope it may turn out that they rest safely in the cabinet of one of my good customers.



The well-established Parisian dealer Louis Ciani stayed put through WWII. But a few years later personal problems caused his business to slacken and – it would be in the 50s – he was obliged to quit. His local colleagues must have taken over the best of his depleted stock, much of it to settle debts. The New York free-lance antiquary Jerry Eisenberg took a flyer and bought the rest. The high points that Jerry showed me were a big stock of books – a pile of reprints of one of the Heiss volumes on Spain, a hoard of the French Moyaux book on Railway medals and tokens – and long runs of, in French terms, common French feudal and medieval silver and of French colonials. I took a few of the books and the three groups of coins. For me, it

was not the deal of the century or even of the year, but I had an instructive and enjoyable time, sold quite a few, and passed the rest on.



In New York facing Madison Avenue between 121st and 122nd Street is Mount Morris Park with a cast-iron frame tower – 125 years ago a far uptown fire lookout. Opposite, on Madison, stood in the 1930s the emigre Russian Orthodox church of Christ the Savior. In its basement was a modest restaurant where the dinner, fully as authentic as the one at the Russian Tearoom on 57th Street, cost a tenth as much. Nearby, the Public Library branch had a section with several thousand Russian and Serbo-Croat books. This was once a Russian-South Slav-Baltic stronghold, long since yielded to Harlem.

In an apartment house at 123rd and Madison lived Alex von Sandro. The name smacks of the stage. He had quarreled with the ANA, and his membership was in his wife's name – N(ina) Evans von Sandro. From the early 1920s until ill health caused him to retire to the Cossack community in Lakewood, New Jersey, he must have been Manhattan's top Russian numismatist. He died I think in the early 1960s. For some years he ran a small coin shop on east 125th Street, a couple of blocks from home. Harry Severin consulted him for valuations in his book on Russian gold.

Abe Kosoff bought von Sandro's collection and fine library after his death. Though Abe's focus was usually thought of as U. S. coins, he had a sentimental attachment to things Russian – in 1958 he compiled the sales pamphlet for the GM collection, he bought the Prince Alexander of Hesse Constantine ruble in 1964 and kept it as long as he lived. I am not familiar with the details, but one way or another Abe sold off most of von Sandro's coins and, apparently after selling about half the library himself, he turned the rest over en bloc to Armand Champa, the well-known numismatic bibliophile. Champa later very kindly let me have me this element. Von Sandro identified his books by a small round numbered rubber stamp with A. von S. below the number, and he usually signed his name in a flowing script on the flyleaf or title page.

The only direct transaction I had with von Sandro was in 1940. At a Stack's sale he told me he meant to collect only gold and silver thereafter and invited me over to look over his copper coins. I drove up from Philadelphia the next Sunday. Looking out of his window one saw the faithful converging on the Church of the Savior – "beautiful people" of the emigration arriving in Pierce Arrows and Packards, most of the communicants very modestly dressed and on foot. Von Sandro's coins were of course far more than I could handle, I was grateful to pick out a good representation, which he sold me without quibble at a price fair to us both. I don't know what happened to the rest.



Dr. Busso Peus was at first an aide with the Hess Nachfolger Firm in Frankfurt. In the late 30s the Nazis "cleansed" the establishment, the Hess people made their way to Luzern, and Busso Peus took over with the Government's acquiescence. He was a learned numismatist and a most agreeable and probitous individual, and as the war's aftermath faded the Firm prospered again. The background events receded into subliminal memory.

Busso Peus' auction catalogues, and those of his successor, Dieter Raab, carry forward the Firm's high standards. One Peus sale of the middle 50s included elements of the celebrated Ernst Lejeune collection, decades in the making. I learned the collector was the devoted numismatic bachelor who, when reproached by his mother for not getting married and presenting her with grandchildren, pleaded, "Aber Mutti, I have 50,000 well trained little ones, and they never sass me back".

This sale included big lots of Russian and Italian States coppers, things one would have thought Dr. Peus might have broken down more in detail. I had set my heart on the Russian copper group, with 500 pieces – if I had only known it, an articulated collection full of choice pieces, with many rarities, some of them from the Hess 1931-1932 "museum duplicates" sales. I bid as recklessly as I dared, but a better informed bidder topped me.

The Italians were arbitrarily divided into five lots of 300 each – mainly Papal – with scores of the 2 1/2 and 5 baiocchi late 18th Century provincial coppers from roller dies. Miraculously, these all came to me, at an average price of about 20 cents a coin. This assuaged somewhat the tragedy of the Russian loss.

#### FOOTNOTES

<sup>13</sup> After Eklund's death in 1950, his executor – his sister, I believe – turned to Mrs. D. Dee deNise to hold an Eklund auction. This lady was then for a time ANA librarian, she was also an Eklund neighbor, in Seattle, across Washington state. The sale offered a dazzling display of the lesser series, strong in European colonial issues in South Asia, along with O. P.'s fine library. The attributions, faithfully copied from his envelopes, were impeccable. The sale was potentially a major event, but too few people learned about it in time and it was an indifferent success. The rest of the collection was gradually fed out privately in groups.

<sup>14</sup> Think of Joe Segal. His great success with his Franklin Mint followed two or three false starts. He shared his success; he distributed Franklin Mint stock to the Token and Medal Society, even to the struggling Organization of International Numismatists, and stood behind ANA's rewrite of the Frey Numismatic Dictionary. Joe retired from business at length to do good work in support of the United Nations.

*to be concluded...*

## The Printer's Devil

By Joel J. Orosz, NLG

A few years ago, *The New Yorker* magazine ran a cartoon commentary upon changing times and mores in the book business. Against a backdrop of increasing popularity for books on tape, books on microfiche, and books on compact discs, the cartoon depicted a bibliophile's storefront, displaying a handful of volumes underneath a sign reading "books on paper." It hasn't come to that yet, — the vast majority of all books are still published in a format that Gutenberg would instantly recognize — but it may. Publishing the old-fashioned way is becoming an expensive proposition, and new technologies are making it cheaper and easier to use electronic formats in lieu of books. As these words are written, the hottest technology bidding to replace books on paper is the compact disc (CD). It would be timely to look at the promise (and the perils) of the CD, and to review the first numismatic CD of which your columnist is aware, *The Riches of Coins*, published in 1992 by The Smithsonian Institution in collaboration with Philips Interactive Media.

The CD as a physical object is a circular piece of plastic, a mere four and three quarters inches in diameter, covered by a layer of reflective aluminum. The plastic contains grooves much like a vinyl long-playing record, except that they are much more closely spaced and read from the inside out rather than from the outside in. The information embedded within the grooves is read by a laser inside the CD player. CD's have numerous advantages over other media. They reproduce sound better than vinyl. They are more durable and hold much more information than either film or vinyl. Most important in this information-rich age, CD's are more compact than any other media. This information about CD's, for example, was gleaned from the CD version of *Compton's Encyclopedia*, the 26 printed volumes of which have been distilled onto a single CD.

In bibliophilic terms, a CD can be nothing more than a book on tape (that is, only words), but its cousin, the videodisc — which stores visual images as well as sound — can deliver most of the features of books, and others that books cannot offer. CD-ROM's are video-discs that store sophisticated computer programs — mixing graphics, text, and stereo sound — on a single disc. ROM, by the way, stands for Read-Only Memory. Another dimension is added in CD-Interactive (CD-I), which allows the user to pick from various menus on the disc in order to customize his or her own experience in using it. CD-ROM discs can only be played upon computers, while CD-I discs must be played on machines hooked directly into a television set.

It was the CD-I technology that the Smithsonian Institution utilized in 1992 when it published, in partnership with Phillips Interactive Media, the CD-I disc entitled, *The Riches of Coins*. This title is one of the earliest, if not the earliest, strictly numismatic publication on compact disc. If this were merely a novelty item, it would deserve only passing notice, but the rising cost of paper and the sheer bulk of books is increasingly driving publishers to look at electronic media. We see this especially in large, multi-volume publishing endeavors (besides the aforementioned *Compton's Encyclopedia*, Microsoft has published its *Encarta* encyclopedia exclusively on CD-ROM). The advantages are obvious: 40 dollars and a quarter-inch of shelf space for the CD version, versus a four-figure price and several feet of shelf space for the printed version. In numismatics, too, the "post-paper" revolution has begun. A few years back, the American Numismatic Association reprinted *The Numismatist* on microfiche, and a couple of years ago, the Early American Coppers Club did the same for *Penny Wise* on CD-ROM. Since CD's seem to be the harbinger of the future for numismatic bibliophiles, it may be useful to take a critical look at *The Riches of Coins*.

*The Riches of Coins* comes in a promising package. This CD-I is enclosed in a gray case, measuring six inches wide, by eight and one half inches high, by one half inch thick. A cardboard jacket slips over this case, with title and four colorful graphics on the front: a High Relief Roman Numerals Saint Gaudens Double Eagle; the obverse and reverse of a 1791 Washington President Cent with large eagle reverse; and non-numismatically, the Statue of Liberty and a portrait of George Washington painted by Charles Willson Peale. The rear of the jacket contains mostly text, although the menu of the CD is illustrated, as are photos of the obverses of a Georgius Triumpho token and a Virginia Half Penny. The CD-I is cradled inside the holder; its label is emblazoned with four stylized Saint Gaudens Double Eagles.

Once plugged into the player, *The Riches of Coins* begins with a full-screen shot of a High Relief Roman Numeral Saint Gaudens Double Eagle. The voice-over starts with the following words: "All of our coins — half dollars, quarters, dimes, nickels, even the humble penny — are connected to a glorious history, a history marked by revolution, personal dramas and changing national ideas. This is *The Riches of Coins*, your personal entry into a world of connections with the past, captivating details, and larger-than-life personalities."

The narrator then helpfully explains that *The Riches of Coins* consists of many small "collections," unified by a story, and illustrated by eight to twelve coins per "collection." The main menu follows, offering three substantive categories, and three supporting categories. The substantive categories are "Captivating Details," which focuses on aesthetic and romantic details of coinage; "Money As History," which traces the coinage in America from the first European settlements to our own times; and "Personal Col-

lections," which are essentially interviews with three numismatists: Joseph R. Lasser, Allen F. Lovejoy, and Eric P. Newman. The three supporting categories are mostly functional: an Index to the coins on the disc, for example, and an "Exit" command to stop play of the disc. The last supporting category of the main menu, "Coin Folder," we will hear more about later. Each of the substantive categories consist of three to nine separate "collections," illustrated by eight to twelve coins apiece, as noted above.

*The Riches of Coins* can be enjoyed in two different ways. The first is passively, in which one simply switches on the first category of the main menu, "Captivating Details," and then sits back and observes. The player will run through all of the collections in that category, then all of the collections in the next category, and so on. The three substantive categories require about an hour and a half of straight-through running time. The second way to enjoy the disc is interactively. One can easily move to any category in the main menu, to any collection within the category, or out to another category in the collection, all by pressing a few buttons. For example, one can go directly to the "Money as History" category, then zero in on the "Colonial Times" collection to look at the coins within, then skip to the "Personal Collections" category, and select the interview with N. B. S. member Eric P. Newman.

No matter how one chooses to sample *The Riches of Coins*, one can use the "Coin Folder" category to become a collector. As you move through a category — say, "Money as History" you can select any of your stashed coins, notes or tokens and the chosen one will come up in full obverse view, along with basic facts about it. Commands at the bottom of the screen allow you to flip the note, token, or coin to see the reverse, to request a more detailed fact sheet about it, or to call up an in-depth story regarding it.

These images are surprisingly good. At several magnifications, the planchet is fully visible (and another command, at the bottom of the screen, allows you to zoom in on certain details). Flaws show up clearly, such as the fingerprint on the obverse of the 1877 Indian Cent from the "Gilded Age" collection of the Money as History category. Luster does not photograph as well, but since CD-I is capable of reproducing film clips, it should be theoretically possible to watch the "cartwheel luster" of an uncirculated coin as it is slowly rotated.

*The Riches of Coins* was produced with the resources of the National Numismatic Collection of the National Museum of American History of the Smithsonian Institution. This allows for the illustration of a gourmet's feast of numismatic items, ranging from the immortals (Brasher Doubloon, 1804 Silver Dollar, 1913 Liberty Head Nickel), to the mundane (Roosevelt Dime and Kennedy Half), to the esoteric (1715 South Carolina £ 4 note). As one would expect, the history is generally well-presented (the treatment of

the Revolutionary period is especially good), and the illustrations, both numismatic and non-numismatic, are aesthetically pleasing. There are many examples, as well, of solid scholarship. To mention only one, the 1791 Washington President Small Eagle Cent is credited to John Gregory Hancock, Sr. in Russell Rulau's and George Fuld's Centennial Edition of W.S. Baker's *Medallic Portraits of Washington* and also in Walter Breen's *Comprehensive Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coinage*. Here, however, the source of Hancock's design is credited: an engraving by the Swiss Artist and Museum Proprietor, Pierre Eugène Du Simitière (1737-1784).

Given all of these laudable features, it is somewhat disconcerting to report that *The Riches of Coins* contains, in its presentation, no fewer than six errors of fact or interpretation. Two of these might fall under the rubric of "artistic license," but the remaining four are more substantive.

The first transgression comes in the opening sentence, when the narrator refers to "the humble penny." The United States, as every numismatist knows, has never coined pennies; since virtually everyone refers to cents as such, however, perhaps we can forgive the indiscretion. Later, in the "Captivating Details" category, in the "On the Face of It" collection, we hear the voice of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, recorded during his first inaugural address, telling us that we have nothing to fear but fear itself. The accompanying photo, however, depicts F. D. R. speaking from the back of a campaign train. No doubt, this license was taken because no close-up photo of Roosevelt at his first inaugural was available, but still the juxtaposition jars.

More serious errors of historical fact are also present. In the interview with Joseph Lasser, he states that he began collecting coins "during the bicentennial of the U. S. in 1932." Of course, the bicentennial in 1932 was that of George Washington's birth: the U.S. Bicentennial came forty-four years later, in 1976. When P. T. Barnum's career is considered in "On the Face of It," two separate errors creep in. First, Barnum is quoted as saying "there's a sucker born every minute." Neil Harris, Barnum's scholarly biographer, never found the slightest evidence that he ever uttered those words. Second, Barnum's management of Jenny Lind's spectacularly successful tour of America is dated to his later career, after his turn as a circus impresario. Actually, Barnum managed Lind's tour rather early in his career, in 1850, while he was till the proprietor of the American Museum in New York City, and more than twenty years before he turned the Barnum and Bailey Circus into "The Greatest Show on Earth." A final error of historical interpretation occurs in "On the Face of It." The disc tells us that Booker T. Washington "advocated a separate, but equal agenda" for African-Americans. In fact, Washington did nothing of the kind. The phrase "separate but equal" comes from the United States Supreme Court, which

in their 1896 *Plessy v. Ferguson* decision upheld the constitutionality of a Louisiana law, passed in 1890, which required separate railroad cars for whites and blacks. Booker T. Washington had the "separate" thrust upon him by Jim Crow laws, and advocated self-reliance for blacks as the only viable response. He was always the first to say, however, that while life for African-Americans was almost always separate, it was almost never equal.

In addition to the errors, there is a misleading statement about one of the featured coins. Once again, the lapse is found in "On the Face of It," where a Fugio Cent is depicted, and the word "Fugio" is translated as "time flies." While this is undoubtedly the concept that Benjamin Franklin meant to convey, the literal translation of "Fugio" is "I fly." The quote "I" certainly refers to the sun dial representing time, so — "time flies" is an acceptable *paraphrase* — but should not be offered as a literal translation.

*The Riches of Coins* is marred by these errors, but not fatally flawed. Writer Lee Fleming, Senior Consultant of Dr. Richard G. Doty, Curator of the National Numismatic Collection, and the late Walter Breen, who also consulted on the project, have much of which to be proud. The story lines are interesting, the graphics — depicting both coins and contemporary artifacts and scenes — are often impressive, and the history, with the exception of the "On the Face of It" collection, is generally solid. The CD admirably achieves its general objective, that of introducing people to coin collecting by means of historical vignettes and personal stories. Your columnist particularly enjoyed the interview with Eric P. Newman, during which he discussed items from his personal collection, including the unique 1792 "Washington President" in gold that was George Washington's pocket piece and the 1861 Confederate Half Dollar which may have been Jefferson Davis's personal property. All of this is accomplished with sprightly prose (for example, they promise to trace the evolution of Ms. Liberty from "wild child to gracious goddess"). And always there, the beautiful, full-color, larger-than-life coins, tokens, and notes themselves to be admired, studied, and "saved" in your Coin Folder. In sum, *The Riches of Coins* is a visually stunning, if not always historically accurate, introduction to numismatics.

It is tempting to herald *The Riches of Coins* as part of the wave of the future that will render books on paper obsolete. Tempting, but probably unwise. First, we cannot be sure just how long CD's as physical objects will last. Although, generally speaking, aluminum is very stable, plastics run the gamut from unstable to virtually immortal. Will the aluminum tarnish? Will it become separated from the plastic? Will the plastic rapidly return to nature? CD's are being touted as durable, but then, so was wood-pulp paper upon its introduction during the Gilded Age, and we all know the melancholy ending to *that* story.

An even greater threat than the durability of the compact disc, however, is the half-life of technology. In a recent issue of *Scientific American*, a story was published discussing the growing problem of data stored upon media that can no longer be read. A case in point is the magnetic tape used in the early transistorized mainframe computers, which have been rendered obsolete by microchip-based machines. The data on the magnetic tape is still readable, but every year fewer of the early mainframes are still functional in order to read them. Soon there will be none. Eventually, the tapes themselves will degrade, but for many years, they will be usable, but nonetheless completely inaccessible.

This could foreshadow the fate of *The Riches of Coins*. It appears that the CD-ROM technology (which requires personal computers) is winning the popularity derby over CD-I (which requires a machine hooked directly to a television). If Philips should stop making CD-I machines, the CD-I discs would become just like the magnetic tapes of an earlier era: usable, but completely inaccessible.

All of this suggests that, for now at least, it might be wise to limit numismatic CD publications to reprints of titles that exist in other formats. Reprinting the *American Journal Numismatics* on CD makes sense in order to cut costs; placing all of the data for a major new piece of scholarship on a CD may not. If hardware changes render CD reprints obsolete, the information still exists in other formats. If the data exists exclusively on CD, on the other hand, technological obsolescence may result in its being lost forever. Before we go too far down the road to this bright new future, we ought to consider the ramifications of technological change — and not be so quick to abandon good old books on paper.

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## Hitch a Ride on the NBS Information Super-Highway

Numismatic Bibliomania Society Vice President Wayne Homren is collecting email addresses from NBS members, a process which began at the national meeting at the Portland ANA convention. The resulting mailing list will be used to keep members and interested parties updated on NBS events and changes to the NBS web site ([http://www.money.org/club\\_nbs.html](http://www.money.org/club_nbs.html)).

To have your address added to the list, send Wayne Homren a note at this email address: homren@cgi.com.

## Moving Into the New Millennium: Some Thoughts on Numismatics in the Year 2000 and Beyond

By Arthur Crawmer

Predicting the future of anything is fraught with peril. I suspect that a numismatist in 1898 who went about predicting the future of numismatics in the twentieth century would have been more wrong than correct. He or she would most certainly been unable to predict the technological advances and social changes that would shape the future of numismatics. A 1898 futurist would probably not have foreseen the increase in leisure time and the activities associated with this increase, including coin collecting and collecting numismatic literature. Nor would that prognosticator have been able to foresee the career of B. Max Mehl or the change in the marketing of numismatic material that he would bring about. Therefore, in moving ahead I accept the fact that at best I will see no more than a few of the changes to numismatics that will occur in the years ahead.

Some aspects of the hobby are today as they were in years past and will probably remain so in the future. Numismatists are in a sense collectors of history. I doubt that this perspective will change. We hold for a brief period items which we hope will be desired by others, because they represent to the next generation, as they did for us, a connection with the past. In each item there is a story to be told — if not in the item itself then in the people or the times associated with the item. It is obvious that the desire to discover and present more stories and to further expand the information base of numismatics will continue into the next century. However, this article will focus on the way the story will be told and how the information will be maintained, rather than on the tale itself or the contents of the library or collection.

We are living in an era where numismatic information is more comprehensive and accessible than ever before. Books on every imaginable numismatic topic are available and a number of topical numismatic newspapers and periodicals flourish. As a result, an extensive numismatic library is now within the reach of every collector with the initiative to go beyond the simple possession of a coin, medal or token.

We are fortunate to be participating in what may be the golden age of numismatic literature. I believe that collectors of numismatic literature are in a key position to stand at the forefront of the future collecting and dissemination of numismatic information. We are at a point in human history where information management and processing is taking another giant leap forward.

Before the invention of the printing press there were two ways to pass down information, verbally and in handwritten documents. Whether passed down in stories from one generation to the next or stored on clay tablets, scrolls, books, or some other medium, the information had to be created individually by someone with the skill and time to manufacture the document, or the ability to tell the tale. These methods of transferring knowledge severely limited the accumulation and dissemination if information.

With the invention of the printing press came mass production of information. Literacy eventually became commonplace and a geometric increase in the accumulation of knowledge began to occur. Still, the length of time it took for information and knowledge to be conveyed, analyzed and revised left much to be desired.

We now stand at a point in time where the limitations of these processes can be overcome electronically. The personal computer and the information super highway have been linked together in a manner that allows one to instantaneously communicate information with anyone in the world, on any subject and at any time. What does this mean for numismatics? The future is uncertain at best, but I believe that this technological change will make the social changes brought on by the industrial revolution and mass production appear small by comparison.

At this point, a brief overview of this technology may be appropriate in order to provide those unfamiliar with electronic information management a basic understanding of the process. It starts with a personal computer and a modem, a device which allows you, through your computer, to communicate with other computers or individuals. Two computers linked together over telephone lines through a modem form a simple communications network. The internet, developed in the 1980s to allow defense-related research institutions and agencies to communicate and share data, is a network of computer networks. The internet links together computer networks of colleges and universities; databases of local, county, state and federal government agencies and a variety of commercial and non-commercial enterprises in over sixty-three countries. The world wide web is a service that allows computer users to find information on the internet. All of this forms what has become known as the information super highway.

Because of this technology, changes in the way information is managed and transmitted have already occurred and will continue to evolve. Internet sites accessible through the world wide web are being created at a phenomenal rate. Major organizations such as the American Numismatic Association and American Numismatic Society already have sites on the information super highway and more and more dealers go "on line" every week. For the future, presentation of information in this manner has diverse applications and possibilities.

Hopefully, organizations will find a number of ways to use this medium to better serve their memberships and to promote numismatics. Many internet sites currently have a rather brazen "look at me, I'm here" appearance to them, but this level of presentation is changing and will continue to become more sophisticated as organizations and members become more familiar with the opportunities created through this medium.

Several possibilities for numismatic uses of the internet come immediately to mind. A year-round convention could be held over the internet, with ongoing meetings and seminars taking place whenever the membership elects or whenever a member opens his/her electronic mail. Information service providers are creating easy ways for like-minded individuals to communicate with one another. "Chat rooms" are everywhere — perhaps an ANA, ANS or NBS sponsored chat room with an occasional guest numismatist is in the future.

Electronic communication may present an opportunity for the elected officers of numismatic organizations to allow members more input into the decision-making process of their groups. Video conferencing of meetings is not now feasible, but interim steps to allow direct communication from the membership could be examined. Electronic mail and voting on key issues are certainly within the realm of the possible.

Additionally, the technology involved in creating an electronic web page has been simplified to the point where anyone can create, or have created for them a personal internet site. Such pages can be simple or complex, can contain as much or as little information as their creators desire and can be modified as the need arises. Expanding this concept slightly, an electronic weekly news page is another possibility.

Electronic reference libraries are developing and expanding. One such information source, known as *Uncover*, indexes over 17,000 periodicals and, since initiating the service in 1988, has indexed over eight million articles. Through *Uncover* the user can access articles by subject, author or periodical and can order specific articles. *Uncover* highlights one of the major advantages of the computer — speed. The time required to search such a mass of material is impossible to calculate — the computer in tandem with the service cut this time to a matter of minutes.

The ANA library catalogue could be placed on line and connected to other on line systems throughout the world. The ANS has already taken steps in this direction. University libraries are connected in this manner, thus, the technology for such an initiative is available. The ANA reference library itself could become electronic, with queries being received and responded to via E mail. Someday the entire contents of the library could be scanned, stored on a mainframe computer and made available for reference whenever a researcher had the time for study. The thought of one or more of the great numismatic libraries in the world being available any

time and any place is an exciting prospect. In such a library, the role of the librarian would be to serve as a worldwide information manager.

Perhaps someday in the future, numismatic periodicals will be published electronically. This would save on distribution costs, would increase access to these periodicals and could create a dynamic process by which the reader could also be a contributor. In such a publication, if a reader had a specific comment or additional information regarding an article, it could be electronically mailed and included as a supplement to the publication. Another electronic publishing possibility is that the reader could communicate directly with the author. Letters to the editor could take on a whole new meaning with the editor serving as a focal point for the rapid and continuous sharing of ideas and opinions. Such a process would aid in the accumulation and sharing of numismatic information.

Through electronic information management the marketplace for numismatic material may be vastly different than today. Consider the possibility of an electronic bourse where all the dealers in the country are available to the collector community through their home computer. Dealers would list their inventory in a manner similar to today's fixed price lists or advertisements. Collectors would have the opportunity to comparison shop for items they desire in a manner similar to a show bourse, but with the potential to choose from a wider variety of dealers. The walk from table to table, asking "do you have any" could come to an electronic end.

Still another possibility is that dealers would be better able to receive and service want lists. An electronic bulletin board or want list could be created by the ANA or NBS. Dealers and collectors could review the want list, respond to the collector and arrange a sale or trade for desired items. This would reduce the dealer's cost by eliminating or reducing the need to print and mail out fixed price lists.

Some major dealers already have sites on the internet, but, like the organization sites, these are in a developmental phase. The offering of coins and literature appears to be limited at this point in time, but this approach to marketing will continue to grow. It simply stands to reason that people with the discretionary income to purchase coins and books would also be likely purchasers of personal computers and thus, will have access to the internet.

This is an obvious prediction, but I am certain we will see an expansion of electronic coin auctions. Teletrade has been conducting auctions in a telephone and now a computer format for eight years. Other firms are now moving into this arena, and I believe we have just begun to see the development of this aspect of the numismatic marketplace. This seems to make economic common sense, as the printing and distribution costs of the auction catalog could be avoided or reduced, thereby reducing the cost to the seller and perhaps decreasing the buyer premium charged by the seller.

These changes raise the question of what may happen to the auction catalog, a current staple of numismatic literature, and the fixed price list. Perhaps they will disappear, or maybe they could be saved and stored in an electronic reference library available to all collectors. The collecting of numismatic literature will certainly be changed by this new technology. I prefer not to place a value judgment at this point, as I believe the future is in our hands. There may not be the great private library of an Armand Champa in the future. However, if all have access to information, the trade-off, in my opinion would be more than acceptable.

Just like the appearance of the Whitman album and B. Max Mehl, I have no doubt been unable to see significant aspects of this change in technology. I suspect that at some point in time people wondered how widespread telephone use would become, just as today they are wondering about the expansion of the personal computer. These ideas only scratch the surface. However, we have a clear choice at this juncture. The officers and membership of numismatic organizations can choose to act now and play a role in determining how this electronic revolution will reshape numismatics, or we can sit by and watch the revolution take place. Guidance and direction in this area, for the sake of the hobby, will be helpful to future collectors. It is my hope that numismatic organizations will see fit to assist in the construction and regulation of the numismatic avenue of the information super highway.

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## NBS Annual Meeting at ANA: Portland, August 8, 1998 by Colonel Bill Murray, NLG

Forty-eight persons attended the Numismatic Bibliomania Society meeting at the American Numismatic Association Convention. Wayne Homren briefly described the NBS website. It was recommended that members visit it. The address of the website is: [http://www.money.org/club\\_nbs.html](http://www.money.org/club_nbs.html).

Secretary David Hirt announced a current NBS membership of 245 persons. Twenty new members have joined in 1998. Joel Orosz was presented an award for the best article in *The Asylum*. His work, "The Numismatic Bibliomania Society, 1980-1997, A History of Seventeen Years In Fifteen Volumes," can be read on-line at the NBS website under "Publications."

Myron Xenos offered an entertaining and informative presentation on Cleveland coin dealer Michael Kolman, Jr. and Michael Sullivan presented an interesting and educational slide illustrated presentation on counterfeit detectors for paper money from the last century in the United States.

## Announcing the New Device Built-in Orderly Organized Knowledge [BOOK] *A press release recently appearing on the internet*

The BOOK is a revolutionary breakthrough in information technology: no wires, no electric circuits, no batteries, nothing to be connected or switched on. User interface is so sophisticated that even a child can operate it. Just lift its cover!

Compact and portable, it can be used anywhere — even sitting in an armchair by the fire — yet it is powerful enough to hold as much information as a CD-ROM disc. Here's how it works.

Each BOOK is constructed of sequentially numbered sheets of paper (recyclable), each capable of holding thousands of bits of information. These pages are locked together with a custom-fit device called a "binding" which keeps the sheets in their correct sequence. Opaque Paper Technology (OPT) allows manufacturers to use both sides of the sheet, doubling the information density and cutting costs in half.

Experts are divided on the prospects for further increase in information density; for now BOOKs with more information simply use more pages. This makes them thicker and harder to carry, and has drawn some criticism from the laptop computing crowd.

Each sheet is scanned optically, registering information directly into your brain. A flick of the finger takes you to the next sheet. The BOOK may be taken up at any time and used merely by opening it. The BOOK never crashes and never needs rebooting, though like any other display device it can become unusable if dropped overboard. The "browse" feature allows you to move instantly to any sheet, and move forward or backward as you wish.

Many come with an "index" feature, which pinpoints the exact location of any selected information for instant retrieval. An optional "BOOKmark" accessory allows you to open the BOOK to the exact place you left it in a previous session — even if the BOOK has been closed. BOOKmarks fit universal design standards; thus a single BOOKmark can be used in BOOKs by various manufacturers. Conversely, numerous BOOKmarkers can be used in a single BOOK if the user wants to store numerous views at once. The number is limited only by the number of pages in the BOOK.

You can also make personal notes next to BOOK text entries with an optional programming tool, the Portable Erasable Nib Cryptic Intercommunication Language Stylus (PENCILS).

Portable, durable, and affordable, the BOOK is being hailed as the entertainment wave of the future. The BOOK's appeal seems so certain that thousands of content creators have committed to the platform. Look for a flood of new titles soon!

# Constitution and By-Laws Numismatic Bibliomania Society

## ARTICLE I. NAME AND PURPOSE

*Section 1.* The NAME of this organization is the Numismatic Bibliomania Society, hereafter referred to as NBS.

*Section 2.* The PURPOSES of NBS are to stimulate interest in collecting numismatic literature through education, to assist and encourage new collectors, and to cultivate cooperation among collectors and researchers.

*Section 3.* The society is ORGANIZED and shall be operated as a non-profit organization, shall not have the power to issue stocks or to declare or pay dividends, and shall be operated exclusively for the purposes enumerated in Section 2. No part of the net income or net earnings of the society shall be for the benefit or profit of any private individual or firm. No officer or employee of the society shall receive or be entitled to receive any benefits from the operation thereof except as reasonable compensation for expenses. No member or trustee of the society shall receive any salary or other compensation of any kind for services other than reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his or her duties, except for the editor of the quarterly journal, *The Asylum*, who may receive a stipend (amount to be determined by the Board of Trustees), for services rendered.

## ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

*Section 1.* MEMBERSHIP is open to any person of good character in the numismatic community. All members in good standing are eligible to vote in society elections and ballots. A person becomes a member upon application to the society, and approval by the Board of Trustees. Membership will be confirmed in writing.

*Section 2.* Membership is NOT TRANSFERABLE.

*Section 3.* There are two (2) dues paying MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES: (a) Regular members shall be 18 years or older; and (b) junior members shall be 12 - 17 years of age. The annual dues for regular members shall be \$15 and for junior members \$7.50, with price changes set by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Trustees. Annual dues will be collected during the first quarter of each calendar year. Dues are levied on a calendar year basis. Members in arrears will be dropped from membership rolls after 60 days. Resignations are accepted but no refund of dues will be made.

There are TWO DUES-FREE MEMBERSHIP categories: (a) Life members - members who pay 20 years of regular membership dues in full in advance will be considered life members; and (b) honorary life members - members who, in the judgment of the Board of Trustees, have made notable contributions to the science of numismatic research. Election to honorary life membership, upon the recommendation of the Board of Trustees and written notification to the membership at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting, shall be held by ballot of the eligible voting

members at the annual meeting of the society. Honorary life members shall be entitled to all the privileges of the society, but shall be exempt from the payment of dues for life.

*Section 4.* Any member of the society may be REMOVED FROM ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP (censured, suspended, or expelled) by the Board of Trustees on its own initiative or upon the written complaint of at least two members of the society. No such disciplinary action shall be taken by the Board of Trustees except for cause and after hearing upon due notice to the member. Any disciplinary action shall require the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Board of Trustees at a regular or special meeting called by any member of the board.

*Section 5. OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES CAN BE REMOVED* from office with the affirmative vote of two-thirds of trustees at a board meeting. The President will be responsible to contact the officer or trustee to review the issue(s) in advance of a board meeting. No such action shall be taken by the Board of Trustees except for officers and trustees failing to fulfill their required duties and/or causing harm to the organization. In the event the President is the officer committing such offenses, the Vice-President shall be the responsible to review the issue(s) with the President, assemble the Board of Trustees, and lead a vote of the board.

### **ARTICLE III. MEETINGS**

*Section 1.* There shall be an ANNUAL CLUB MEETING of the society customarily held to coincide with the American Numismatic Association (ANA) Convention held each year. The intent of the club meeting is to provide members an update on NBS finances, membership, and future activities, and to transact club business. The annual club meeting will also include an education forum.

*Section 2.* There shall be an ANNUAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES meeting of the society customarily held to coincide with the ANA Convention held each year. Other board meetings may be scheduled by the President or upon request of two or more board members.

*Section 3.* An EDUCATIONAL MEETING may be called at any time by the President. No educational meeting shall be held without the express consent of The President or the Board of Trustees. The President can appoint, with approval prior to the meeting, a society member to coordinate and lead an educational meeting. No club business shall be transacted at any educational meeting.

*Section 4.* A QUORUM shall constitute a minimum of five board members. At any meeting of the society, a quorum of board members is required to transact business.

*Section 5.* The ORDER OF BUSINESS at all meetings shall be determined by the President or, in his absence, the Vice-President. Except as otherwise provided, all business shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

### **ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS and TRUSTEES**

*Section 1.* The OFFICERS of NBS shall be President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer. Six (6) Trustees will be included with the officers to form the Board of Trustees.

*Section 2.* ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES will occur in odd calendar years for a term of two years. Nominations will be accepted during the first calendar quarter of the election year by written request of the President to the membership. The election of officers and trustees to the board will be by plurality vote of all eligible society members voting during the second calendar quarter of the election year. Election ballots will be counted by the Secretary-Treasurer or a person(s) selected by the Board of Trustees. Elected officers and trustees will assume responsibility 30 days after the close of the ballot.

*Section 3.* The PRESIDENT shall preside at all NBS club meetings and Board of Trustees meetings, and shall perform the duties usually associated with that office. All necessary committees shall be appointed by the President, with the approval of the Board of Trustees. The President shall also be responsible for making arrangements for the annual club meeting, customarily held at the annual ANA Convention.

*Section 4.* The VICE-PRESIDENT shall perform the duties of the President, in the absence of the latter. If the office of the President is vacant, the Vice-President shall succeed to fill the office of President. The Vice-President is also the program chairman at the annual club meeting and shall be in charge of preparing the annual awards of the society.

*Section 5.* The SECRETARY-TREASURER shall preside over all financial and operational activities of the society, and shall perform the duties usually associated with that office. The Secretary-Treasurer shall collect all membership dues, advertising fees, back-issue sale proceeds, and other funds which may come to NBS. The Secretary-Treasurer will establish and maintain such bank accounts as needed for the society with the President as an alternative signer for all accounts and maintain all required accounting records of the society. Funds of the society may be disbursed by the Secretary-Treasurer as its business may require. If the Secretary-Treasurer questions the propriety of any disbursement, the matter may be submitted to the board of trustees for approval. The Secretary-Treasurer will render an annual accounting of all funds of the society to the Board of Trustees, customarily to coincide with the American Numismatic Association (ANA) Convention held each year.

The Secretary-Treasurer will maintain a list of members in good standing, submit an annual membership report to the Board of Trustees, handle the routine business and communication of the society, maintain a record of financial transactions, and notifications of dues payments and members in arrears. The back issue inventory of *The Asylum* will be held and sold via the Secretary-Treasurer at a price determined by the Board of Trustees.

The Secretary-Treasurer or a person(s) selected by the Board of Trustees will coordinate and count the ballots from any NBS officer and trustee election or other designated membership voting processes, and provide a summary of results to the Board of Trustees.

*Section 6.* The BOARD OF TRUSTEES shall have vested in them the activities, concerns, and properties of the society. The Board of Trustees shall be responsible for the governance of the society. The Board of Trustees, aside from other duties specified in this Constitution and By-Laws, are representatives of NBS' membership, interests, and concerns.

*Section 7.* The EDITOR of *The Asylum* shall be appointed by the President, subject to confirmation by the board. The editor of *The Asylum* shall be an ex-officio member of the Board of Trustees not authorized to vote on actions of the board unless the editor is an elected board member.

*Section 8.* The SOCIETY HISTORIAN shall be appointed by the President, subject to confirmation by the board. The historian shall maintain an archive of society records and documents, and make these records available to scholars or members of the society..

*Section 9.* VACANT OFFICER OR TRUSTEE ROLES due to death, resignation, or replacement shall be filled by recommendation of the President with board approval by simple majority vote at a board of trustees meeting.

## ARTICLE V. AMENDMENTS

*Section 1.* The CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS MAY BE AMENDED at the annual club meeting by a vote of eligible members present, or by mail ballot of all members eligible to vote; two-thirds majority vote required to pass amendments. Proposed changes must be submitted by the President in writing to the membership not later than 30 days in advance of the meeting or ballot submission date.

*Section 2.* The Board of Trustees has authority to amend the Constitution and By-Laws with a two-thirds majority vote of the board during any Board of Trustees meeting to CONFORM TO REVENUE CODE requirements for tax exempt organizations. The President will inform the membership of any such changes in the next issue of *The Asylum*.

## ARTICLE VI. DISSOLUTION

*Section 1.* The society shall not be dissolved as long as ten (10) members remain active. The society may be dissolved upon a two-third majority vote of the membership. Upon the DISSOLUTION OF THE SOCIETY, the Board of Trustees, after paying or making the provisions for the payment of all liabilities of NBS, shall dispose of all the assets of NBS to organizations that are organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, or scientific purposes, such as literature preservation at either the American Numismatic Association (ANA) or American Numismatic Society (ANS), provided they qualify as a tax exempt organization under the Internal Revenue Code.

## ARTICLE VII. RATIFICATION and ADOPTION

*Section 1.* RATIFICATION of this Constitution and By-Laws requires a simple majority vote of eligible voting members of the society. The President shall submit the Constitution and By-Laws in writing to the general membership not later than 30 days in advance of the ballot closing date.

*Section 2.* The Constitution and By-Laws will be ADOPTED and effective the closing date of the ballot if a simple majority vote is achieved.

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## The Development of the Coin Album - Part Three

by David W. Lange

This series of articles on the development of the coin album concludes with a complete listing by editions of all the various titles I believe to have been printed or are likely to have been printed. Those which I've confirmed to exist through firsthand observation are indicated with a plus (+) sign. The titles are written exactly as they appear on the front cover of each folder, including italics and both upper case and lower case lettering. For those editions which bear duplicate titles on the spine, these titles were often abbreviated from the one on the cover. Only the cover titles are reproduced in this catalog.

### WHITMAN PUBLISHING COMPANY - Racine, WI

(all have blue covers with silver lettering and are 5-3/4" wide x 7-1/2" high, except 12th edition)

FIRST EDITION - glossy royal blue, leatherlike finish, no title on spine (1940-43)  
 (close left border, with very small, sans-serif catalog number)

- 9022 HALF CENT COLLECTION 1793 to 1857
- 9003 + INDIAN HEAD CENT COLLECTION INCLUDING FLYING EAGLE CENTS 1856 to 1909
- 9004 LINCOLN HEAD CENT COLLECTION STARTING 1909
- 9024 TWO CENT NICKEL THREE CENT COLLECTION 1864 to 1889
- 9023 SILVER THREE CENT COLLECTION 1851 to 1873
- 9006 SHIELD TYPE NICKEL COLLECTION 1866 to 1883
- 9007 LIBERTY HEAD NICKEL COLLECTION 1883 to 1913
- 9008 BUFFALO NICKEL COLLECTION 1913 to 1938
- 9009 JEFFERSON NICKEL COLLECTION STARTING 1938
- 9005 HALF DIME COLLECTION 1794 to 1873
- 9010 BUST TYPE DIME COLLECTION 1796 to 1837
- 9011 LIBERTY SEATED DIME COLLECTION 1837 to 1862
- 9012 LIBERTY SEATED DIME COLLECTION 1863 to 1891
- 9013 MORGAN DIME LIBERTY HEAD COLLECTION 1892 to 1916
- 9014 + MERCURY HEAD DIME COLLECTION STARTING 1916
- 9015 MORGAN QUARTER LIBERTY HEAD COLLECTION 1892 to 1905
- 9016 MORGAN QUARTER LIBERTY HEAD COLLECTION 1906 to 1916
- 9017 LIBERTY STANDING QUARTER COLLECTION 1916 to 1930
- 9018 WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION STARTING 1932
- 9019 MORGAN HALF DOLLAR LIBERTY HEAD COLLECTION 1892 to 1903
- 9020 MORGAN HALF DOLLAR LIBERTY HEAD COLLECTION 1904 to 1915
- 9021 LIBERTY STANDING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION STARTING 1916

SECOND EDITION - matte royal blue, grained finish, no title on spine (1943-46)  
 (distant left border, very small, sans-serif catalog number,  
 color variants include blue-gray and light navy blue)

- 9022 HALF CENT COLLECTION 1793 to 1857
- 9001 + LARGE CENT COLLECTION 1793 to 1825
- 9002 LARGE CENT COLLECTION 1826 to 1857
- 9003 + INDIAN HEAD CENT COLLECTION INCLUDING FLYING EAGLE CENTS 1856 to 1909

9004 + LINCOLN HEAD CENT COLLECTION STARTING 1909 (closely spaced holes)  
 9004 LINCOLN HEAD CENT COLLECTION 1909 to 1945  
 9030 LINCOLN HEAD CENT COLLECTION STARTING 1946  
 9024 + TWO CENT NICKEL THREE CENT COLLECTION 1864 to 1889  
 9023 SILVER THREE CENT COLLECTION 1851 to 1873  
 9006 + SHIELD TYPE NICKEL COLLECTION 1866 to 1883  
 9007 + LIBERTY HEAD NICKEL COLLECTION 1883 to 1913  
 9008 BUFFALO NICKEL COLLECTION 1913 to 1938  
 9009 + JEFFERSON NICKEL COLLECTION STARTING 1938  
 9005 + HALF DIME COLLECTION 1794 to 1873  
 9010 + BUST TYPE DIME COLLECTION 1796 to 1837  
 9011 LIBERTY SEATED DIME COLLECTION 1837 to 1862  
 9012 + LIBERTY SEATED DIME COLLECTION 1863 to 1891  
 9013 + MORGAN DIME LIBERTY HEAD COLLECTION 1892 to 1916  
 9014 "MERCURY" HEAD DIME COLLECTION STARTING 1916  
 9015 + MORGAN QUARTER LIBERTY HEAD COLLECTION 1892 to 1905  
 9016 + MORGAN QUARTER LIBERTY HEAD COLLECTION 1906 to 1916  
 9017 + LIBERTY STANDING QUARTER COLLECTION 1916 to 1930  
 9018 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION STARTING 1932  
 9018 WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION 1932 to 1945  
 9031 WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION STARTING 1946  
 9019 + MORGAN HALF DOLLAR LIBERTY HEAD COLLECTION 1892 to 1903  
 9020 BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" HALF DOLLAR 1904-1915  
 9021 + LIBERTY STANDING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1916 to 1936  
 9027 LIBERTY STANDING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION STARTING 1937  
 9025 SILVER DOLLARS

THIRD EDITION - light navy blue, grained finish, no title on spine (1946-50)

(close left border with small, serif-style catalog number, color variants include royal blue and blue-gray)

9022 HALF CENT COLLECTION 1793 to 1857  
 9001 + LARGE CENT COLLECTION 1793 to 1825  
 9002 + LARGE CENT COLLECTION 1826 to 1857  
 9003 + INDIAN HEAD CENT COLLECTION INCLUDING FLYING EAGLE CENTS 1856 to 1909  
 9004 + LINCOLN HEAD CENT COLLECTION 1909 to 1945 NUMBER ONE  
 9030 LINCOLN HEAD CENT COLLECTION STARTING 1946  
 9024 TWO CENT-NICKEL THREE CENT COLLECTION 1864 to 1889  
 9023 + SILVER THREE CENT COLLECTION 1851 to 1873  
 9006 + SHIELD TYPE NICKEL COLLECTION 1866 to 1883  
 9007 + LIBERTY HEAD NICKEL COLLECTION 1883 to 1913  
 9008 + BUFFALO NICKEL COLLECTION 1913 to 1938  
 9009 + JEFFERSON NICKEL COLLECTION STARTING 1938 (royal blue)  
 9009 + JEFFERSON NICKEL COLLECTION STARTING 1938  
 9005 HALF DIME COLLECTION 1794 to 1873  
 9010 + BUST TYPE DIME COLLECTION 1796 to 1837  
 9011 + LIBERTY SEATED DIME COLLECTION 1837 to 1862  
 9012 + LIBERTY SEATED DIME COLLECTION 1863 to 1891  
 9013 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" DIME COLLECTION 1892 to 1916  
 9014 + "MERCURY" HEAD DIME COLLECTION 1916 to 1945  
 9029 ROOSEVELT DIME COLLECTION STARTING 1946  
 9015 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" QUARTER COLLECTION 1892 to 1905  
 NUMBER ONE  
 9016 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" QUARTER COLLECTION 1906 to 1916  
 NUMBER TWO  
 9017 + LIBERTY STANDING QUARTER COLLECTION 1916 to 1930  
 9018 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION 1932 to 1945 NUMBER ONE

9031 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION STARTING 1946 NUMBER TWO  
 9019 BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1892 to 1903 NUMBER ONE  
 9020 BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1904 to 1915 NUMBER TWO  
 9021 LIBERTY STANDING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1916 to 1936 NUMBER ONE  
 9027 LIBERTY STANDING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION STARTING 1937 NUMBER TWO  
 9027 + LIBERTY STANDING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1937 to 1947 NUMBER TWO  
 9032 + BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION STARTING 1948  
 9025 SILVER DOLLARS  
 9026A+ UNITED STATES COIN *Type Collection* HALF CENTS CENTS TWO-CENT PIECES THREE-CENT PIECES HALF DIMES FIVE-CENT PIECES DIMES TWENTY-CENT PIECES  
 9026B+ UNITED STATES COIN *Type Collection* QUARTER DOLLARS HALF DOLLARS SILVER DOLLARS  
 9026C+ *Handbook of UNITED STATES TYPE COINS* (this and above two titles in original slip case)

**FOURTH EDITION - matte navy blue, grained finish, no title on spine - (1948-53)**  
 (close left border, with small, serif-style catalog number)

9022 + HALF CENT COLLECTION 1793 to 1857  
 9001 + LARGE CENT COLLECTION 1793 to 1825  
 9002 + LARGE CENT COLLECTION 1826 to 1857  
 9003 + INDIAN HEAD CENT COLLECTION INCLUDING FLYING EAGLE CENTS 1856 to 1909  
 9004 + LINCOLN HEAD CENT COLLECTION 1909 to 1940 NUMBER ONE  
 9030 LINCOLN HEAD CENT COLLECTION STARTING 1941 NUMBER TWO  
 9041 CENTS  
 9024 TWO CENT-NICKEL THREE CENT COLLECTION 1864 to 1889  
 9023 SILVER THREE CENT COLLECTION 1851 to 1873  
 9006 SHIELD TYPE NICKEL COLLECTION 1866 to 1883  
 9007 + LIBERTY HEAD NICKEL COLLECTION 1883 to 1913  
 9008 + BUFFALO NICKEL COLLECTION 1913 to 1938  
 9009 + JEFFERSON NICKEL COLLECTION STARTING 1938  
 9042 NICKELS  
 9005 + HALF DIME COLLECTION 1794 to 1873  
 9010 + BUST TYPE DIME COLLECTION 1796 to 1837  
 9011 LIBERTY SEATED DIME COLLECTION 1837 to 1862  
 9012 + LIBERTY SEATED DIME COLLECTION 1863 to 1891  
 9013 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" DIME COLLECTION 1892 to 1916  
 9014 + "MERCURY" HEAD DIME COLLECTION 1916 to 1945  
 9029 + ROOSEVELT DIME COLLECTION STARTING 1946  
 9043 DIMES  
 9015 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" QUARTER COLLECTION 1892 to 1905 NUMBER ONE  
 9016 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" QUARTER COLLECTION 1906 to 1916 NUMBER TWO  
 9017 + LIBERTY STANDING QUARTER COLLECTION 1916 to 1930  
 9018 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION 1932 to 1945 NUMBER ONE  
 9031 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION STARTING 1946 NUMBER TWO  
 9044 QUARTERS  
 9019 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1892 to 1903 NUMBER ONE  
 9020 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1904 to 1915 NUMBER TWO  
 9021 + LIBERTY STANDING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1916 to 1936 NUMBER ONE

9027 + LIBERTY STANDING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1937 to 1947 NUMBER TWO  
 9032 + BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION STARTING 1948  
 9045 HALVES  
 9025 SILVER DOLLARS  
 9026A UNITED STATES COIN *Type Collection* HALF CENTS CENTS TWO-CENT PIECES THREE-CENT PIECES HALF DIMES FIVE-CENT PIECES DIMES TWENTY-CENT PIECES  
 9026B UNITED STATES COIN *Type Collection* QUARTER DOLLARS HALF DOLLARS SILVER DOLLARS  
 9046 *Type Collection* OF TWENTIETH CENTURY UNITED STATES COINS

**Canada**

9061 CANADIAN LARGE CENT COLLECTION 1858 to 1920  
 9062 SMALL CENT COLLECTION 1920 to DATE  
 9063 + CANADIAN SILVER 5c COLLECTION 1858 TO 1921 (*large number*)  
 9064 CANADIAN NICKEL COLLECTION 1922 TO DATE

**FIFTH EDITION** - matte navy blue, grained finish, no title on spine (1953-59)  
 (distant left border with large, serif-style catalog number,  
 text-only endflap, catalog numbers narrow or broad)

9022 + HALF CENT COLLECTION 1793 to 1857  
 9001 + LARGE CENT COLLECTION 1793 to 1825  
 9002 + LARGE CENT COLLECTION 1826 to 1857  
 9003 + INDIAN HEAD CENT COLLECTION INCLUDING FLYING EAGLE CENTS 1856 to 1909  
 9004 + LINCOLN HEAD CENT COLLECTION 1909 to 1940 NUMBER ONE  
 9030 + LINCOLN HEAD CENT COLLECTION STARTING 1941 NUMBER TWO  
 9041 + CENTS  
 9024 TWO CENT-NICKEL THREE CENT COLLECTION 1864 to 1889  
 9023 + SILVER THREE CENT COLLECTION 1851 to 1873  
 9006 + SHIELD TYPE NICKEL COLLECTION 1866 to 1883  
 9007 + LIBERTY HEAD NICKEL COLLECTION 1883 to 1913  
 9008 + BUFFALO NICKEL COLLECTION 1913 to 1938  
 9009 + JEFFERSON NICKEL COLLECTION STARTING 1938  
 9042 + NICKELS  
 9005 + HALF DIME COLLECTION 1794 to 1873  
 9010 + BUST TYPE DIME COLLECTION 1796 to 1837  
 9011 + LIBERTY SEATED DIME COLLECTION 1837 to 1862  
 9012 + LIBERTY SEATED DIME COLLECTION 1863 to 1891  
 9013 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" DIME COLLECTION 1892 to 1916  
 9014 + "MERCURY" HEAD DIME COLLECTION 1916 to 1945  
 9029 + ROOSEVELT DIME COLLECTION STARTING 1946  
 9043 DIMES  
 9033 + LIBERTY SEATED QUARTER COLLECTION 1838 to 1865 NUMBER ONE  
 9034 + LIBERTY SEATED QUARTER COLLECTION 1866 to 1891 NUMBER TWO  
 9015 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" QUARTER COLLECTION 1892 to 1905 NUMBER ONE  
 9016 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" QUARTER COLLECTION 1906 to 1916 NUMBER TWO  
 9017 + LIBERTY STANDING QUARTER COLLECTION 1916 to 1930  
 9018 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION 1932 to 1945 NUMBER ONE  
 9031 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION STARTING 1946 NUMBER TWO  
 9044 QUARTERS  
 9035 + LIBERTY SEATED HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1839 to 1850 NUMBER ONE  
 9036 + LIBERTY SEATED HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1851 to 1862 NUMBER TWO  
 9037 + LIBERTY SEATED HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1863 to 1873 NUMBER THREE

9038 + LIBERTY SEATED HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1873 to 1891 NUMBER FOUR  
 9019 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1892 to 1903 NUMBER ONE  
 9020 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1904 to 1915 NUMBER TWO  
 9021 + LIBERTY STANDING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1916 to 1936 NUMBER ONE  
 9027 + LIBERTY STANDING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1937 to 1947 NUMBER TWO  
 9032 + BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION STARTING 1948  
 9045 HALVES  
 9025 + UNITED STATES SILVER DOLLARS  
 9026A UNITED STATES COIN *Type Collection* HALF CENTS CENTS TWO-CENT PIECES THREE-CENT PIECES HALF DIMES FIVE-CENT PIECES DIMES TWENTY-CENT PIECES  
 9026B + UNITED STATES COIN *Type Collection* QUARTER DOLLARS HALF DOLLARS SILVER DOLLARS  
 9046 + *Type Collection* OF TWENTIETH CENTURY UNITED STATES COINS  
 9046 + *Type Collection* OF TWENTIETH CENTURY UNITED STATES COINS (large, oval number)

### Canada

9061 + CANADIAN LARGE CENT COLLECTION 1858 to 1920  
 9062 SMALL CENT COLLECTION 1920 to DATE  
 9063 + CANADIAN SILVER 5c COLLECTION 1858 TO 1921  
 9064 + CANADIAN NICKEL COLLECTION 1922 TO DATE  
 9065 + CANADIAN DIME COLLECTION No. 1 1858 TO 1936  
 9066 + CANADIAN DIME COLLECTION No. 2 1937 TO DATE  
 9067 + CANADIAN QUARTER COLLECTION No. 1 1858 TO 1910  
 9068 + CANADIAN QUARTER COLLECTION No. 2 1911 TO 1952  
 9069 + CANADIAN QUARTER COLLECTION No. 3 1953 TO DATE  
 9070 CANADIAN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1870 to 1910  
 9071 + CANADIAN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1911 to 1936  
 9072 + CANADIAN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1937 to DATE  
 9073 + CANADIAN SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1935 to DATE (title in 2 lines)  
 9073 + CANADIAN SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1935 to DATE (title in 3 lines)

### Maritime Provinces

9074 + CENTS and HALF CENTS of BRITISH NORTH AMERICA NEWFOUNDLAND NEW BRUNSWICK NOVA SCOTIA PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

SIXTH EDITION - Darker matte navy blue, grained finish, no title on spine (1957-63)  
 (coin illustration on endflap, except undated and world folders,  
 catalog numbers are either narrow or broad)

9022 + HALF CENT COLLECTION 1793 to 1857  
 9001 + LARGE CENT COLLECTION 1793 to 1825  
 9002 + LARGE CENT COLLECTION 1826 to 1857  
 9003 + INDIAN HEAD CENT COLLECTION INCLUDING FLYING EAGLE CENTS 1856 to 1909  
 9004 + LINCOLN HEAD CENT COLLECTION 1909 to 1940 NUMBER ONE  
 9030 + LINCOLN HEAD CENT COLLECTION STARTING 1941 NUMBER TWO  
 9000 + LINCOLN MEMORIAL CENT COLLECTION STARTING 1959  
 9100 ONE-A-YEAR Cent Collection 1909 TO DATE  
 9041 + CENTS  
 9024 + TWO CENT NICKEL THREE CENT COLLECTION 1864 to 1889  
 9023 + SILVER THREE CENT COLLECTION 1851 to 1873  
 9006 + SHIELD TYPE NICKEL COLLECTION 1866 to 1883  
 9007 + LIBERTY HEAD NICKEL COLLECTION 1883 to 1913

9007 + LIBERTY HEAD NICKEL COLLECTION 1883 to 1912  
 9008 + BUFFALO NICKEL COLLECTION 1913 to 1938 (PSD)  
 9008 + BUFFALO NICKEL COLLECTION 1913 to 1938 (PDS)  
 9009 + JEFFERSON NICKEL COLLECTION STARTING 1938 (PSD)  
 9009 + JEFFERSON NICKEL COLLECTION STARTING 1938 (PDS)  
 9009 + JEFFERSON NICKEL COLLECTION 1938 to 1961 NUMBER ONE  
 9039 + JEFFERSON NICKEL COLLECTION STARTING 1962 NUMBER TWO  
 9102 ONE-A-YEAR Nickel Collection 1913 TO DATE  
 9042 + NICKELS  
 9005 + HALF DIME COLLECTION 1794 to 1873  
 9010 + BUST TYPE DIME COLLECTION 1796 to 1837  
 9011 + LIBERTY SEATED DIME COLLECTION 1837 to 1862  
 9012 + LIBERTY SEATED DIME COLLECTION 1863 to 1891  
 9013 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" DIME COLLECTION 1892 to 1916  
 9014 + "MERCURY" HEAD DIME COLLECTION 1916 to 1945 (PSD)  
 9014 + "MERCURY" HEAD DIME COLLECTION 1916 to 1945 (PDS)  
 9029 + ROOSEVELT DIME COLLECTION STARTING 1946 (PSD)  
 9029 + ROOSEVELT DIME COLLECTION STARTING 1946 (PDS)  
 9103 ONE-A-YEAR Dime Collection 1916 TO DATE  
 9043 + DIMES  
 9033 + LIBERTY SEATED QUARTER COLLECTION 1838 to 1865 NUMBER ONE  
 9034 + LIBERTY SEATED QUARTER COLLECTION 1866 to 1891 NUMBER TWO  
 9015 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" QUARTER COLLECTION 1892 to 1905  
 NUMBER ONE  
 9016 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" QUARTER COLLECTION 1906 to 1916  
 NUMBER TWO (PSD)  
 9016 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" QUARTER COLLECTION 1906 to 1916  
 NUMBER TWO (PDS)  
 9017 + LIBERTY STANDING QUARTER COLLECTION 1916 to 1930  
 9018 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION 1932 to 1945 NUMBER ONE (PSD)  
 9018 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION 1932 to 1945 NUMBER ONE (PDS)  
 9031 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION STARTING 1946 NUMBER TWO  
 (PSD)  
 9031 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION 1946 to 1959 NUMBER TWO (PSD)  
 9031 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION 1946 to 1959 NUMBER TWO (PDS)  
 9040 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION STARTING 1960 NUMBER THREE  
 9104 + ONE-A-YEAR Quarter Collection 1916 TO DATE  
 9044 + QUARTERS  
 9035 + LIBERTY SEATED HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1839 to 1850 NUMBER ONE  
 9036 + LIBERTY SEATED HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1851 to 1862 NUMBER TWO  
 9037 + LIBERTY SEATED HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1863 to 1873 NUMBER THREE  
 9038 + LIBERTY SEATED HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1873 to 1891 NUMBER FOUR  
 9019 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1892 to  
 1903 NUMBER ONE  
 9020 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1904 to  
 1915 NUMBER TWO  
 9021 + LIBERTY STANDING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1916 to 1936 NUMBER ONE  
 (PSD) & (PDS)  
 9027 + LIBERTY STANDING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1937 to 1947 NUMBER TWO  
 (PSD)  
 9027 + LIBERTY STANDING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1937 to 1947 NUMBER TWO  
 (PDS)  
 9032 + BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION STARTING 1948 (PSD)  
 9032 + BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION STARTING 1948 (PDS)  
 9032 + BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1948 to 1963  
 9045 + HALVES  
 9082 + LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1878 to 1883

## NUMBER ONE

9083 + LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1884 to 1890  
 NUMBER TWO

9084 + LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1891 to 1897  
 NUMBER THREE

9085 + LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1898 to 1921  
 NUMBER FOUR

9028 + PEACE TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1921 to 1935 (PSD)

9028 + PEACE TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1921 to 1935 (PDS)

9025 + UNITED STATES SILVER DOLLARS

9026A+ UNITED STATES COIN *Type Collection* HALF CENTS CENTS TWO-CENT PIECES  
 THREE-CENT PIECES HALF DIMES FIVE-CENT PIECES DIMES TWENTY-CENT  
 PIECES

9026B + UNITED STATES COIN *Type Collection* QUARTER DOLLARS HALF DOLLARS SIL-  
 VER DOLLARS

9046 + *Type Collection* OF TWENTIETH CENTURY UNITED STATES COINS

**Canada**

9061 + CANADIAN LARGE CENT COLLECTION 1858 to 1920

9062 + CANADIAN SMALL CENT COLLECTION 1920 to DATE

9063 + CANADIAN SILVER 5c COLLECTION 1858 to 1921

9064 + CANADIAN NICKEL COLLECTION 1922 to DATE

9064 + CANADIAN NICKEL COLLECTION 1922 to 1960 NUMBER ONE

9089 + CANADIAN NICKEL COLLECTION 1961 to DATE NUMBER TWO

9065 + CANADIAN DIME COLLECTION No. 1 1858 to 1936

9066 + CANADIAN DIME COLLECTION No. 2 1937 to DATE

9067 CANADIAN QUARTER COLLECTION No. 1 1858 to 1910

9068 + CANADIAN QUARTER COLLECTION No. 2 1911 to 1952

9068 + CANADIAN QUARTER COLLECTION 1911 to 1952 NUMBER TWO

9069 + CANADIAN QUARTER COLLECTION 1953 to DATE NUMBER THREE

9079 + CANADIAN QUARTERS

9070 + CANADIAN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1870 to 1910

9071 + CANADIAN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1911 to 1936

9072 + CANADIAN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1937 to DATE (2 lines)

9072 CANADIAN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1937 to 1960 NUMBER ONE

9094 + CANADIAN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1961 to DATE NUMBER TWO

9080 + CANADIAN HALVES

9073 + CANADIAN SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1935 to DATE

9073 + CANADIAN SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1935 to 1957 NUMBER ONE

9087 CANADIAN SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1958 to DATE NUMBER TWO

9086 + CANADIAN SILVER DOLLARS

9081 + CANADA COIN TYPE COLLECTION LARGE CENTS, SMALL CENTS, FIVE-CENT  
 PIECES, DIMES, TWENTY CENTS, TWENTY-FIVE CENTS, HALF DOLLARS, DOL-  
 LARS

**Maritime Provinces**

9074 + CENTS and HALF CENTS of BRITISH NORTH AMERICA NEWFOUNDLAND,  
 NEW BRUNSWICK, NOVA SCOTIA, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

9075 + NEWFOUNDLAND FIVE CENT COLLECTION 1865 to 1947 NEW BRUNSWICK  
 FIVE, TEN AND TWENTY CENT COLLECTION 1862 and 1864

9076 + NEWFOUNDLAND TEN CENT COLLECTION 1865 to 1947

9077 + NEWFOUNDLAND TWENTY AND TWENTY-FIVE CENT COLLECTION 1865 to  
 1919

9078 + NEWFOUNDLAND HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1870 to 1919

9088 + NEWFOUNDLAND COIN TYPE COLLECTION LARGE CENTS, SMALL CENTS,  
 FIVE-CENT PIECES, DIMES, TWENTY CENTS, TWENTY-FIVE CENTS, HALF DOL-  
 LARS

**Great Britain**

9675 + GREAT BRITAIN FARTHINGS COLLECTION 1860 to 1901  
 9676 + GREAT BRITAIN FARTHINGS COLLECTION 1902 to 1936  
 9677 + GREAT BRITAIN FARTHINGS COLLECTION 1937 to 1956  
 9678 + GREAT BRITAIN HALFPENNIES COLLECTION 1860 to 1901  
 9679 + GREAT BRITAIN HALFPENNIES COLLECTION 1902 to 1936  
 9680 + GREAT BRITAIN HALFPENNIES COLLECTION 1937 -  
 9681 + GREAT BRITAIN PENNIES COLLECTION No. 1 1860 to 1880  
 9682 + GREAT BRITAIN PENNIES COLLECTION No. 2 1881 to 1901  
 9683 + GREAT BRITAIN PENNIES COLLECTION No. 3 1902 to 1929  
 9684 + GREAT BRITAIN PENNIES COLLECTION No. 4 - 1930  
 9685 + GREAT BRITAIN THREEPENCE SILVER COLLECTION 1838 to 1901  
 9686 + GREAT BRITAIN THREEPENCE SILVER COLLECTION 1902 to 1945  
 9687 + GREAT BRITAIN THREEPENCE BRASS COLLECTION 1937-  
 9689 + GREAT BRITAIN SIXPENCE COLLECTION 1902 to 1936  
 9690 + GREAT BRITAIN SIXPENCE COLLECTION 1937-  
 9693 + GREAT BRITAIN SHILLINGS COLLECTION 1902 to 1936  
 9694 + GREAT BRITAIN SHILLINGS COLLECTION 1937 to 1951  
 9695 + GREAT BRITAIN SHILLINGS COLLECTION 1953 to DATE

**Mexico**

9696 + MEXICAN ONE CENTAVO COLLECTION STARTING 1905  
 9697 + MEXICAN FIVE CENTAVO COLLECTION 1905 to 1955  
 9698 + MEXICAN FIVE CENTAVO COLLECTION STARTING 1954

SEVENTH EDITION - title on spine (as on all subsequent editions) and no logo on cover (1963-64)

9022 HALF CENT COLLECTION 1793 to 1857  
 9001 LARGE CENT COLLECTION 1793 to 1825  
 9002 LARGE CENT COLLECTION 1826 to 1857  
 9003 + INDIAN HEAD CENT COLLECTION INCLUDING FLYING EAGLE CENTS 1856 to 1909  
 9004 LINCOLN HEAD CENT COLLECTION 1909 to 1940 NUMBER ONE  
 9030 + LINCOLN HEAD CENT COLLECTION STARTING 1941 NUMBER TWO  
 9000 LINCOLN MEMORIAL CENT COLLECTION STARTING 1959  
 9100 ONE-A-YEAR Cent Collection 1909 TO DATE  
 9041 CENTS  
 9024 TWO CENT-NICKEL THREE CENT COLLECTION 1864-1889  
 9023 SILVER THREE CENT COLLECTION 1851 to 1873  
 9006 + SHIELD TYPE NICKEL COLLECTION 1866 to 1883  
 9007 + LIBERTY HEAD NICKEL COLLECTION 1883 to 1912  
 9008 BUFFALO NICKEL COLLECTION 1913 to 1938  
 9009 JEFFERSON NICKEL COLLECTION 1938 to 1961 NUMBER ONE  
 9039 + JEFFERSON NICKEL COLLECTION STARTING 1962 NUMBER TWO  
 9102 ONE-A-YEAR Nickel Collection 1913 TO DATE  
 9042 + NICKELS  
 9005 HALF DIME COLLECTION 1794 to 1873  
 9010 BUST TYPE DIME COLLECTION 1796 to 1837  
 9011 + LIBERTY SEATED DIME COLLECTION 1837 to 1862  
 9012 LIBERTY SEATED DIME COLLECTION 1863 to 1891  
 9013 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" DIME COLLECTION 1892 to 1916  
 9014 + "MERCURY" HEAD DIME COLLECTION 1916 to 1945  
 9029 + ROOSEVELT DIME COLLECTION STARTING 1946  
 9103 ONE-A-YEAR Dime Collection 1916 TO DATE  
 9043 DIMES  
 9033 LIBERTY SEATED QUARTER COLLECTION 1838 to 1865 NUMBER ONE

9034 LIBERTY SEATED QUARTER COLLECTION 1866 to 1891 NUMBER TWO  
 9015 BARBER QUARTER COLLECTION 1892 to 1905 NUMBER ONE  
 9016 BARBER QUARTER COLLECTION 1906 to 1916 NUMBER TWO  
 9017 + LIBERTY STANDING QUARTER COLLECTION 1916 to 1930  
 9018 WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION 1932 to 1945 NUMBER ONE  
 9031 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION 1946 to 1959 NUMBER TWO  
 9040 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION STARTING 1960 NUMBER THREE  
 9104 + ONE-A-YEAR Quarter Collection 1916 TO DATE  
 9044 + QUARTERS  
 9035 + LIBERTY SEATED HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1839 to 1850 NUMBER ONE  
 9036 + LIBERTY SEATED HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1851 to 1862 NUMBER TWO  
 9037 + LIBERTY SEATED HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1863 to 1873 NUMBER THREE  
 9038 LIBERTY SEATED HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1873 to 1891 NUMBER FOUR  
 9019 BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1892 to 1903 NUMBER ONE  
 9020 BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1904 to 1915 NUMBER TWO  
 9021 LIBERTY STANDING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1916 to 1936 NUMBER ONE  
 9027 + LIBERTY STANDING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1937 to 1947 NUMBER TWO  
 9032 + BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1948 to 1963  
 9699 + JOHN F. KENNEDY HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION STARTING 1964  
 9045 HALVES  
 9082 + LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1878 to 1883 NUMBER ONE  
 9083 + LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1884 to 1890 NUMBER TWO  
 9084 + LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1891 to 1897 NUMBER THREE  
 9085 + LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1898 to 1921 NUMBER FOUR  
 9028 + PEACE TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1921 to 1935  
 9025 + UNITED STATES SILVER DOLLARS  
 9026A UNITED STATES COIN Type Collection HALF CENTS CENTS TWO-CENT PIECES THREE-CENT PIECES HALF DIMES FIVE-CENT PIECES DIMES TWENTY-CENT PIECES  
 9026B UNITED STATES COIN Type Collection QUARTER DOLLARS HALF DOLLARS SILVER DOLLARS  
 9046 Type Collection OF TWENTIETH CENTURY UNITED STATES COINS

**Canada**

9061 CANADIAN LARGE CENT COLLECTION 1858 to 1920  
 9062 CANADIAN SMALL CENT COLLECTION 1920 to DATE  
 9063 + CANADIAN SILVER 5c COLLECTION 1858 to 1921  
 9064 CANADIAN NICKEL COLLECTION 1922 to 1960 NUMBER ONE  
 9089 CANADIAN NICKEL COLLECTION 1961 to DATE NUMBER TWO  
 9065 CANADIAN DIME COLLECTION No. 1 1858 to 1936  
 9066 + CANADIAN DIME COLLECTION No. 2 1937 to DATE  
 9067 CANADIAN QUARTER COLLECTION 1858 to 1910 NUMBER ONE  
 9068 CANADIAN QUARTER COLLECTION 1911 to 1952 NUMBER TWO  
 9069 CANADIAN QUARTER COLLECTION 1953 to DATE NUMBER THREE  
 9079 CANADIAN QUARTERS  
 9072 CANADIAN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1937 to 1960 NUMBER ONE  
 9094 CANADIAN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1961 to DATE NUMBER TWO  
 9080 CANADIAN HALVES  
 9073 CANADIAN SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1935 to 1957 NUMBER ONE  
 9087 CANADIAN SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1958 to DATE NUMBER TWO  
 9086 CANADIAN SILVER DOLLARS

9081 CANADA COIN TYPE COLLECTION LARGE CENTS, SMALL CENTS, FIVE-CENT PIECES, DIMES, TWENTY CENTS, TWENTY-FIVE CENTS, HALF DOLLARS, DOL-LARS

#### **Great Britain**

9689 + GREAT BRITAIN SIXPENCE COLLECTION 1902 to 1936

#### **Mexico**

9696 MEXICAN ONE CENTAVO COLLECTION STARTING 1905

9697 MEXICAN FIVE CENTAVO COLLECTION 1905 to 1955

9698 + MEXICAN FIVE CENTAVO COLLECTION STARTING 1954

EIGHTH EDITION - "Whitman" logo on cover (1964-65)

9003 + INDIAN HEAD CENT COLLECTION INCLUDING FLYING EAGLE CENTS 1856 to 1909

9004 + LINCOLN HEAD CENT COLLECTION 1909 to 1940 NUMBER ONE

9030 + LINCOLN HEAD CENT COLLECTION STARTING 1941 NUMBER TWO

9000 + LINCOLN MEMORIAL CENT COLLECTION STARTING 1959

9100 ONE-A-YEAR Cent Collection 1909 TO DATE

9041 CENTS

9006 SHIELD TYPE NICKEL COLLECTION 1866 to 1883

9007 + LIBERTY HEAD NICKEL COLLECTION 1883 to 1912

9008 + BUFFALO NICKEL COLLECTION 1913 to 1938

9009 + JEFFERSON NICKEL COLLECTION 1938 to 1961 NUMBER ONE

9039 + JEFFERSON NICKEL COLLECTION STARTING 1962 NUMBER TWO

9102 ONE-A-YEAR Nickel Collection 1913 TO DATE

9042 + NICKELS

9011 LIBERTY SEATED DIME COLLECTION 1837 to 1862

9012 LIBERTY SEATED DIME COLLECTION 1863 to 1891

9013 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" DIME COLLECTION 1892 to 1916

9014 + "MERCURY" HEAD DIME COLLECTION 1916 to 1945

9029 + ROOSEVELT DIME COLLECTION STARTING 1946

9103 ONE-A-YEAR Quarter Collection 1916 TO DATE

9043 + DIMES

9033 LIBERTY SEATED QUARTER COLLECTION 1838 to 1865

9034 LIBERTY SEATED QUARTER COLLECTION 1866 to 1891

9015 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" QUARTER COLLECTION 1892 to 1905 NUMBER ONE

9016 BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" QUARTER COLLECTION 1906 to 1916 NUMBER TWO

9017 + LIBERTY STANDING QUARTER COLLECTION 1916 to 1930

9018 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION 1932 to 1945 NUMBER ONE

9031 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION 1946 to 1959 NUMBER TWO

9040 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION STARTING 1960 NUMBER THREE

9104 ONE-A-YEAR Quarter Collection 1916 TO DATE

9044 + QUARTERS

9035 LIBERTY SEATED HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1839 to 1850 NUMBER ONE

9036 + LIBERTY SEATED HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1851 to 1862 NUMBER TWO

9037 LIBERTY SEATED HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1863 to 1873 NUMBER THREE

9038 + LIBERTY SEATED HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1873 to 1891 NUMBER FOUR

9019 BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1892 to 1903 NUMBER ONE

9020 + BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1904 to 1915 NUMBER TWO

9021 + LIBERTY STANDING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1916 to 1936 NUMBER ONE

9027 + LIBERTY STANDING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1937 to 1947 NUMBER TWO

9032 + BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1948 to 1963  
 9699 + JOHN F. KENNEDY HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION STARTING 1964  
 9045 + HALVES  
 9082 + LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1878 to 1883  
     NUMBER ONE  
 9083 + LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1884 to 1890  
     NUMBER TWO  
 9084 + LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1891 to 1897  
     NUMBER THREE  
 9085 + LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1898 to 1921  
     NUMBER FOUR  
 9028 + PEACE TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1921 to 1935  
 9025 + UNITED STATES SILVER DOLLARS  
 9026A UNITED STATES COIN *Type Collection* HALF CENTS CENTS TWO-CENT PIECES  
     THREE-CENT PIECES HALF DIMES FIVE-CENT PIECES DIMES TWENTY-CENT  
     PIECES  
 9026B UNITED STATES COIN *Type Collection* QUARTER DOLLARS HALF DOLLARS SIL-  
     VER DOLLARS  
 9046 + *Type Collection* OF TWENTIETH CENTURY UNITED STATES COINS

### **Canada**

9064 + CANADIAN NICKEL COLLECTION 1922 to 1960 NUMBER ONE  
 9068 + CANADIAN QUARTER COLLECTION 1911 to 1952 NUMBER TWO  
 9089 + CANADIAN NICKEL COLLECTION 1961 to DATE NUMBER TWO

### **Australia**

9661 + AUSTRALIAN HALFPENNIES COLLECTION 1911 to 1936 NUMBER ONE  
 9662 + AUSTRALIAN HALFPENNIES COLLECTION 1938 to 1964 NUMBER TWO  
 9663 + AUSTRALIAN PENNIES COLLECTION 1911 to 1936 NUMBER ONE  
 9664 + AUSTRALIAN PENNIES COLLECTION 1938 to 1952 NUMBER TWO  
 9665 + AUSTRALIAN PENNIES COLLECTION 1953 to 1964 NUMBER THREE  
 9666 + AUSTRALIAN THREEPENCE COLLECTION 1910 to 1964  
 9667 + AUSTRALIAN SIXPENCE COLLECTION 1910 to 1963  
 9668 + AUSTRALIAN SHILLINGS COLLECTION 1910 to 1936 NUMBER ONE  
 9669 + AUSTRALIAN SHILLINGS COLLECTION 1938 to 1963 NUMBER TWO  
 9670 + AUSTRALIAN FLORINS COLLECTION 1910 to 1936 NUMBER ONE  
 9671 + AUSTRALIAN FLORINS AND CROWNS COLLECTION 1937 to 1963 NUMBER TWO

### **Great Britain**

9685 + GREAT BRITAIN THREEPENCE SILVER COLLECTION 1838 to 1901

### **British Commonwealth**

9672 + BRITISH COMMONWEALTH FARTHING SIZE COINS  
 9673 + BRITISH COMMONWEALTH HALFPENNY SIZE COINS  
 9674 + BRITISH COMMONWEALTH PENNY SIZE COINS

### **Miscellaneous titles**

9800 + COIN SIZE TESTING CHART for Whitman 2" x 2" PLASTIC HOLDERS (5-3/4" wide  
     x 7-1/2" high)  
 9800 + COIN SIZE TESTING CHART for Whitman 2" x 2" PLASTIC HOLDERS (5-3/4" wide  
     x 3-3/4" high)

NINTH EDITION - small coin illustration and eagle logo on cover, rating star added, priced 35 (1965-67)

9003 INDIAN HEAD CENT COLLECTION INCLUDING FLYING EAGLE CENTS 1856 to 1909  
 9004 + LINCOLN HEAD CENT COLLECTION 1909 to 1940 NUMBER ONE  
 9030 + LINCOLN HEAD CENT COLLECTION STARTING 1941 NUMBER TWO

9000 LINCOLN MEMORIAL CENT COLLECTION STARTING 1959  
 9100 ONE-A-YEAR Cent Collection 1909 TO DATE  
 9041 CENTS  
 9007 LIBERTY HEAD NICKEL COLLECTION 1883 to 1912  
 9008 + BUFFALO NICKEL COLLECTION 1913 to 1938  
 9009 + JEFFERSON NICKEL COLLECTION 1938 to 1961 NUMBER ONE  
 9039 + JEFFERSON NICKEL COLLECTION STARTING 1962 NUMBER TWO  
 9102 ONE-A-YEAR Nickel Collection 1913 TO DATE  
 9042 NICKELS  
 9013 BARBER OR LIBERTY HEAD DIME COLLECTION 1892 to 1916  
 9014 + "MERCURY" HEAD DIME COLLECTION 1916 to 1945  
 9029 + ROOSEVELT DIME COLLECTION STARTING 1946  
 9103 ONE-A-YEAR Dime Collection 1916 TO DATE  
 9043 DIMES  
 9015 BARBER QUARTER COLLECTION 1892 to 1905 NUMBER ONE  
 9016 BARBER QUARTER COLLECTION 1906 to 1916 NUMBER TWO  
 9017 + LIBERTY STANDING QUARTER COLLECTION 1916 to 1930  
 9018 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION 1932 to 1945 NUMBER ONE  
 9031 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION 1946 to 1959 NUMBER TWO  
 9040 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION STARTING 1960 NUMBER THREE  
 9104 ONE-A-YEAR Quarter Collection 1916 TO DATE  
 9044 + QUARTERS  
 9037 + LIBERTY SEATED HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1863-1873 NUMBER THREE  
 9019 BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1892 to 1903 NUMBER ONE  
 9020 BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1904 to 1915 NUMBER TWO  
 9021 + LIBERTY STANDING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1916 to 1936 NUMBER ONE  
 9027 + LIBERTY STANDING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1937 to 1947 NUMBER TWO  
 9032 + BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1948 to 1963  
 9699 JOHN F. KENNEDY HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION STARTING 1964  
 9045 HALVES  
 9082 LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1878 to 1883 NUMBER ONE  
 9083 LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1884 to 1890 NUMBER TWO  
 9084 LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1891 to 1897 NUMBER THREE  
 9085 LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1898 to 1921 NUMBER FOUR  
 9028 PEACE TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1921 to 1935  
 9025 UNITED STATES SILVER DOLLARS  
 9046 + Type Collection OF TWENTIETH CENTURY UNITED STATES COINS (no illustration)

TENTH EDITION - small coin illustration and large globe logo on cover, rating star, priced 39 (1967)

9003 + INDIAN HEAD CENT COLLECTION INCLUDING FLYING EAGLE CENTS 1856 to 1909  
 9004 LINCOLN HEAD CENT COLLECTION 1909 to 1940 NUMBER ONE  
 9030 + LINCOLN HEAD CENT COLLECTION STARTING 1941 NUMBER TWO  
 9000 LINCOLN MEMORIAL CENT COLLECTION STARTING 1959  
 9100 ONE-A-YEAR Cent Collection 1909 TO DATE  
 9041 CENTS  
 9007 LIBERTY HEAD NICKEL COLLECTION 1883 to 1912  
 9008 BUFFALO NICKEL COLLECTION 1913 to 1938  
 9009 JEFFERSON NICKEL COLLECTION 1938 to 1961 NUMBER ONE

9039 + JEFFERSON NICKEL COLLECTION STARTING 1962 NUMBER TWO  
 9102 ONE-A-YEAR Nickel Collection 1913 TO DATE  
 9042 NICKELS  
 9013 BARBER OR LIBERTY HEAD DIME COLLECTION 1892 to 1916  
 9014 + "MERCURY" HEAD DIME COLLECTION 1916 to 1945  
 9029 + ROOSEVELT DIME COLLECTION STARTING 1946  
 9103 ONE-A-YEAR Dime Collection 1916 TO DATE  
 9043 DIMES  
 9015 BARBER QUARTER COLLECTION 1892 to 1905 NUMBER ONE  
 9016 BARBER QUARTER COLLECTION 1906 to 1916 NUMBER TWO  
 9017 LIBERTY STANDING QUARTER COLLECTION 1916 to 1930  
 9018 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION 1932 to 1945 NUMBER ONE  
 9031 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION 1946 to 1959 NUMBER TWO  
 9040 + WASHINGTON HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION STARTING 1960 NUMBER THREE  
 9104 ONE-A-YEAR Quarter Collection 1916 TO DATE  
 9044 QUARTERS  
 9037 LIBERTY SEATED HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1863-1873 NUMBER THREE  
 9019 BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1892 to 1903 NUMBER ONE  
 9020 BARBER, LIBERTY HEAD OR "MORGAN" HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1904 to 1915 NUMBER TWO  
 9021 + LIBERTY STANDING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1916 to 1936 NUMBER ONE  
 9027 LIBERTY STANDING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1937 to 1947 NUMBER TWO  
 9032 + BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1948 to 1963  
 9699 JOHN F. KENNEDY HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION STARTING 1964  
 9045 HALVES  
 9082 LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1878 to 1883 NUMBER ONE  
 9083 LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1884 to 1890 NUMBER TWO  
 9084 LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1891 to 1897 NUMBER THREE  
 9085 LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1898 to 1921 NUMBER FOUR  
 9028 PEACE TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1921 to 1935  
 9025 UNITED STATES SILVER DOLLARS  
 9046 Type Collection OF TWENTIETH CENTURY UNITED STATES COINS

ELEVENTH EDITION - Small coin illustration and small globe logo on cover (1968-78) (rating star, with T.M., with or without price 39 [1968-70], with R and price 39 [1970], R and no price [1971-78]) (all henceforth have locking holes, those until about 1972 have geometric code symbol in upper right corner)

9002 + LARGE CENTS COLLECTION 1826 to 1857 NUMBER TWO  
 9003 + INDIAN HEAD CENT COLLECTION INCLUDING FLYING EAGLE CENTS 1857 to 1909  
 9004 + LINCOLN HEAD CENT COLLECTION 1909 to 1940 NUMBER ONE  
 9030 + LINCOLN CENT COLLECTION STARTING 1941 NUMBER TWO  
 9030 + LINCOLN CENT COLLECTION 1941 to 1974 NUMBER TWO  
 9000 + LINCOLN MEMORIAL CENT COLLECTION STARTING 1959  
 9100 ONE-A-YEAR Cent Collection 1909 TO DATE  
 9007 + LIBERTY HEAD NICKEL COLLECTION 1883 to 1912  
 9008 + BUFFALO NICKEL COLLECTION 1913 to 1938  
 9009 + JEFFERSON NICKEL COLLECTION 1938-1961 NUMBER ONE  
 9039 + JEFFERSON NICKEL COLLECTION STARTING 1962 NUMBER TWO  
 9102 + ONE-A-YEAR Nickel Collection 1913 TO DATE ("Whitman" logo)  
 9013 + BARBER or LIBERTY HEAD DIME COLLECTION 1892 to 1916  
 9014 + "MERCURY" HEAD DIME COLLECTION 1916 to 1945

9029 + ROOSEVELT DIME COLLECTION STARTING 1946  
 9103 ONE-A-YEAR *Dime Collection* 1916 TO DATE  
 9015 + BARBER or LIBERTY HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION 1892 to 1905 NUMBER ONE  
 9016 + BARBER or LIBERTY HEAD QUARTER COLLECTION 1906 to 1916 NUMBER TWO  
 9017 + LIBERTY STANDING QUARTER COLLECTION 1916 to 1930  
 9018 + WASHINGTON QUARTER COLLECTION 1932 to 1945 NUMBER ONE  
 9031 + WASHINGTON QUARTER COLLECTION 1946 to 1959 NUMBER TWO  
 9040 + WASHINGTON QUARTER COLLECTION STARTING 1960 NUMBER THREE  
 9104 + ONE-A-YEAR *Quarter Collection* 1916 TO DATE ("Whitman" logo)  
 9019 BARBER or LIBERTY HEAD HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1892 to 1903 NUMBER ONE  
 9020 + BARBER or LIBERTY HEAD HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1904 to 1915 NUMBER TWO  
 9021 + LIBERTY WALKING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1916 to 1936 NUMBER ONE  
 9027 + LIBERTY WALKING HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1937 to 1947 NUMBER TWO  
 9032 + BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1948 to 1963  
 9699 JOHN F. KENNEDY HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION STARTING 1964  
 9082 LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1878 to 1883 NUMBER ONE  
 9083 LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1884 to 1890 NUMBER TWO  
 9084 LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1891 to 1897 NUMBER THREE  
 9085 + LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1898 to 1921 NUMBER FOUR

(the following have no illustration on cover)

9041 CENTS  
 9042 + NICKELS  
 9043 + DIMES  
 9044 + QUARTERS  
 9699 + JOHN F. KENNEDY HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION STARTING 1964  
 9045 + HALVES  
 9082 + LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1878 to 1883 NUMBER ONE  
 9083 + LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1884 to 1890 NUMBER TWO  
 9084 + LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1891-1897 NUMBER THREE  
 9085 LIBERTY HEAD OR MORGAN TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1898 to 1921 NUMBER FOUR  
 9028 + PEACE TYPE SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1921 to 1935  
 9023 + EISENHOWER DOLLARS COLLECTION STARTING 1971  
 9025 + UNITED STATES SILVER DOLLARS  
 9046 + *Type Collection* OF TWENTIETH CENTURY UNITED STATES COINS

#### **Canada**

9061 CANADIAN LARGE CENT COLLECTION 1858 to 1920  
 9062 CANADIAN SMALL CENT COLLECTION 1920 to DATE  
 9062 + CANADIAN SMALL CENT COLLECTION 1920 to 1972  
 9074 CANADIAN SMALL CENT COLLECTION 1973 to DATE  
 9063 CANADIAN SILVER 5c COLLECTION 1858 to 1921  
 9064 + CANADIAN NICKEL COLLECTION 1922 to 1960 NUMBER ONE  
 9089 + CANADIAN NICKEL COLLECTION 1961 to DATE  
 9065 + CANADIAN TEN CENTS COLLECTION 1858 to 1936 NUMBER ONE  
 9066 + CANADIAN DIME COLLECTION 1937 to DATE NUMBER TWO  
 9067 CANADIAN QUARTER COLLECTION 1858 to 1910 NUMBER ONE

9068 + CANADIAN QUARTER COLLECTION 1911 to 1952 NUMBER TWO  
 9069 + CANADIAN TWENTY-FIVE CENTS COLLECTION 1953 to DATE NUMBER THREE  
 9079 CANADIAN QUARTERS  
 9070 + CANADIAN FIFTY CENTS COLLECTION 1870 to 1910 NUMBER ONE  
 9071 + CANADIAN FIFTY CENTS COLLECTION 1911 to 1936 NUMBER TWO  
 9072 + CANADIAN FIFTY CENTS COLLECTION 1937 to 1960 NUMBER THREE  
 9094 + CANADIAN FIFTY CENTS COLLECTION 1961 to DATE NUMBER FOUR  
 9072 + CANADIAN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1937 to 1960 NUMBER ONE  
 9094 + CANADIAN HALF DOLLAR COLLECTION 1961 to DATE NUMBER TWO  
 9080 + CANADIAN HALVES  
 9073 + CANADIAN SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1935 to 1957 NUMBER ONE  
 9087 + CANADIAN DOLLARS COLLECTION 1958 to DATE NUMBER TWO  
 9087 + CANADIAN SILVER DOLLAR COLLECTION 1958 to DATE NUMBER TWO  
 9086 CANADIAN DOLLARS  
 9081 CANADA COIN TYPE COLLECTION LARGE CENTS, SMALL CENTS, FIVE-CENT PIECES, DIMES, TWENTY CENTS, TWENTY-FIVE CENTS, HALF DOLLARS, DOL- LARS

**Great Britain**

9680 + GREAT BRITAIN HALFPENNIES COLLECTION 1937-  
 9684 + GREAT BRITAIN PENNIES COLLECTION 1930 to 1966 NUMBER FOUR

**Great Britain 8000 Series (Produced for Don Hirschorn)**

8001 GREAT BRITAIN FARTHINGS  
 8002 GREAT BRITAIN HALF PENNIES  
 8003 GREAT BRITAIN PENNIES  
 8004 GREAT BRITAIN THREE PENCE BRASS  
 8005 + GREAT BRITAIN SIXPENCE  
 8006 GREAT BRITAIN SHILLINGS  
 8007 ?  
 8008 GREAT BRITAIN HALF CROWNS  
 8009 GREAT BRITAIN FLORINS 1911-1940  
 8010 GREAT BRITAIN FLORINS STARTING 1941  
 8011 GREAT BRITAIN FLORINS  
 8012 GREAT BRITAIN HALF CROWNS 1911-1940  
 8013 GREAT BRITAIN HALF CROWNS STARTING 1941

**TWELFTH EDITION** - large coin illustration and small globe logo on cover (1978 to date)  
 (darker navy blue and 5-3/4" wide x 7-1/2" [early] or 7-3/4" [late] high)

9003 + Indian Head Cents Collection Including Flying Eagle Cents 1857 to 1909  
 9004<sup>1</sup> + Lincoln Cents Collection 1909 to 1940 Number One  
 9030 + Lincoln Cents Collection 1941 to 1974 Number Two  
 9033 + Lincoln Cents Collection Starting 1975 Number Three  
 9000 + Lincoln Memorial Cents Collection Starting 1959  
 9101 One-A-Year Cent Collection 1909 to Date  
 9041 + Cents  
 9007 + Liberty Head Nickel Collection 1883 to 1912  
 9008 + Buffalo Nickels Collection 1913 to 1938  
 9009 + Jefferson Nickels Collection 1938 to 1961 Number One  
 9039 + Jefferson Nickels Collection Starting 1962 Number Two  
 9039 + Jefferson Nickels Collection 1962 to 1995 Number Two  
 9035<sup>2</sup> + Jefferson Nickels Collection Starting 1996 Number Three  
 9102 One-A-Year Nickel Collection 1913 to Date  
 9042 + Nickels  
 9013 Barber Dimes Collection 1892 to 1916  
 9014 + Mercury Dimes Collection 1916 to 1945

9029 + Roosevelt Dimes Collection 1946 to 1964 Number One  
 9034<sup>3</sup> + Roosevelt Dimes Collection Starting 1965 Number Two  
 9103 + One-A-Year Dime Collection 1916 to Date  
 9043 + Dimes  
 9015 + Barber Quarter Collection 1892 to 1905 Number One  
 9016 + Barber Quarter Collection 1906 to 1916 Number Two  
 9017 + Liberty Standing Quarters Collection 1916 to 1930  
 9018 + Washington Quarters Collection 1932 to 1945 Number One  
 9018 + Washington Quarters Collection 1932 to 1947 Number One  
 9031 + Washington Quarters Collection 1946 to 1959 Number Two  
 9031 + Washington Quarters Collection 1946 to 1964 Number Two  
 9031 + Washington Quarters Collection 1948 to 1964 Number Two  
 9040 + Washington Quarters Collection Starting 1965 Number Three  
 9040 + Washington Quarters Collection 1965 to 1987 Number Three  
 9038<sup>4</sup> + Washington Quarters Collection Starting 1988 Number Four  
 9104 One-A-Year Quarter Collection 1932 to Date  
 9044 + Quarters  
 9021 + Liberty Walking Half Dollar Collection 1916 to 1936 Number One  
 9027 + Liberty Walking Half Dollar Collection 1937 to 1947 Number Two  
 9032 + Franklin Half Dollars Collection 1948 to 1963  
 9699 + Kennedy Half Dollars Collection Starting 1964  
 9699 + Kennedy Half Dollars Collection 1964 to 1985 Number One  
 9698<sup>5</sup> + Kennedy Half Dollars Collection Starting 1986 Number Two  
 9045 + Half Dollars  
 9082 + Morgan Dollars Collection 1878 to 1883 Number One  
 9083 + Morgan Dollars Collection 1884 to 1890 Number Two  
 9084 + Morgan Dollars Collection 1891 to 1897 Number Three  
 9085 + Morgan Dollars Collection 1898 to 1921 Number Four  
 9028 Peace Dollars Collection 1921 to 1935  
 9023 Eisenhower Dollars Collection Starting 1971  
 9023 + Eisenhower Dollars Collection 1971 to 1978  
 9023 + Eisenhower - Anthony Dollars Collection 1971 to 1981  
 9046 + 20th Century Type Coins

**Canada**

9062 + Canadian Small Cents Collection 1920 to 1972 Number One  
 9074 + Canadian Small Cents Collection Starting 1973 Number Two  
 9064 + Canadian Five Cents Collection 1922 to 1960 Number One  
 9089 Canadian Five Cents Collection Starting 1961 Number Two  
 9065 Canadian Ten Cents Collection 1858 to 1936 Number One  
 9066 + Canadian Ten Cents Collection 1937 to Date Number Two  
 9067 Canadian Twenty-Five Cents Collection 1858 to 1910 Number One  
 9068 Canadian Twenty-Five Cents Collection 1911 to 1952 Number Two  
 9069 + Canadian Twenty-five Cents Collection 1953 to Date Number Three  
 9070 Canadian Fifty Cents Collection 1870 to 1910 Number One  
 9071 Canadian Fifty Cents Collection 1911 to 1936 Number Two  
 9072 Canadian Fifty Cents Collection 1937 to 1960 Number Three  
 9094 + Canadian Fifty Cents Collection Starting 1961 Number Four  
 9073 Canadian Dollars Collection 1935 to 1957 Number One  
 9087 Canadian Dollars Collection Starting 1958 Number Two  
 9086 Canadian Dollars

**Canada (STAR BRAND since 1988, produced for Virg Marshall)**

9062-1+Canadian Small Cents Collection 1920 To Date  
 9064-1+Canadian Five Cents Collection 1922 to 1960 Number One  
 9089-1+Canadian Five Cents Collection 1961 To Date Number Two

**Miscellaneous titles and custom orders**

9004<sup>1</sup> + Lincoln Cents 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE COIN FOLDER 1940-1990 (3" wide x 3-3/4" high)  
-----+ A GUIDE BOOK of UNITED STATES COINS 1947 BY R. S. YEOMAN (2-1/4" wide x 3-3/8" high, gold lettering on maroon cover)  
-----+ Numismatic News 30th Anniversary Lincoln Cent Collection  
-----+ 25 years LINCOLN MEMORIAL CENT  
-----+ LINCOLN MEMORIAL PENNY COLLECTION 1959 - 1986  
-----+ Lincoln Memorial One Cent Book Collection Starting 1959 UNITED STATES MINT (with Treasury Department seal on green cover)  
-----+ Jefferson Memorial Nickel Book Collection Starting 1962 UNITED STATES MINT (with Treasury Department seal on green cover)

**Notes to twelfth edition:**

- 1 Number duplicated
- 2 Number previously used for Liberty Seated Half Dollars 1839-1850
- 3 Number previously used for Liberty Seated Quarters 1866-1891
- 4 Number previously used for Liberty Seated Half Dollars 1873-1891
- 5 Number previously used for Mexico Five Centavos 1954-

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## Board of Trustees Decisions at the 1998 ANA Convention

### NBS CLUB TABLES AT NUMISMATIC CONVENTIONS

In general, the membership of NBS has been unwilling to staff club tables at any convention for the express purpose of promoting NBS. It has become customary to meet around literature dealer tables or at an NBS-sponsored educational forum. Both of these natural mechanisms are sufficient to support the objectives outlined in our By-Laws. As a result, the Board agreed not to fund club tables at any numismatic convention.

### REPRINTING UNAVAILABLE BACK ISSUES OF *THE ASYLUM*

The Board agreed NBS should not be in the reprinting business. Hence, we will not reprint unavailable back issues of *The Asylum*. However, we do want to support individuals who would like to have access to the information. The Secretary-Treasurer will provide photocopies of back issues no longer available from NBS for \$5.00 each (same as back issue pricing).

### CLUB BINDING FOR VOLUMES 1-15 OF *THE ASYLUM*

Although a few NBS members suggested the club organize a process for members to submit their complete sets of *The Asylum* for NBS to provide an official "Club Binding," we have decided not to pursue this project. Complicated logistics, projected low participation, and potential liability issues all influenced the decision of the Board.

## Between the Covers by Colonel Bill Murray, NLG

George Kolbe's recommendations for books that might provide information for bibliophilic neophytes certainly should head the list of references book collector's should own. John Carter's *ABC for Book Collectors*, the seventh edition edited by Nicolas Barker, provides all the language most folks may want, but for those looking for more words, Geoffrey Glaister's *Encyclopedia of the Book* certainly should satisfy. These two volumes list book terms alphabetically and define them in some detail including examples. *The Encyclopedia*, as might be expected, is more comprehensive.

Two other useful books have come to my attention that might interest newcomers to book collecting: *Book Finds* by Ian C. Ellis and *Book Collecting as a Hobby* by P. H. Muir.

*Book Finds* purports to tell you "how to find, buy and sell used and rare books." Though not numismatically oriented, Ellis approaches book collecting from what might be called the fiscal approach. He looks at what makes a rare or used book more or less valuable. Buying and selling seems to be his main concern, but in discussing these aspects of the book business, he covers subjects which any owner of good books should know. Profit and loss, even for the collector not just those in the business, concern him. Beginners to book collecting, even numismatic book collectors, can learn from his commentaries.

*Book Collecting as a Hobby* by P. H. Muir, printed in 1947 is now out-of-print, but I had little trouble finding a good, useable copy with the dust cover intact (important according to Ellis in his *Book Finds*) for \$20. The book is a series of letters to Everyman (that's you and me). The letters are, "How to Begin," "What Shall I Collect?" "How to Tell a First Edition," "How to Tell if a Book is Perfect," "How to Judge Values," "How to Transform Mountains into Molehills," "A Short History of Book-production," and "How to Read a Bookseller's Catalogue." This book is entertaining to read as well as being informative. I suggest looking for it in a library. You may not consider it worth owning - even for \$20.

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### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Due to circumstances beyond my control (such as an irreplaceable hard drive on my stone age computer conking out), I have finally been forced to come up with Internet-compatible equipment.

Having read the write-ups on the NBS web site in *The Numismatist* and *The Asylum*, that was my first target (when I finished fuming at Windows).

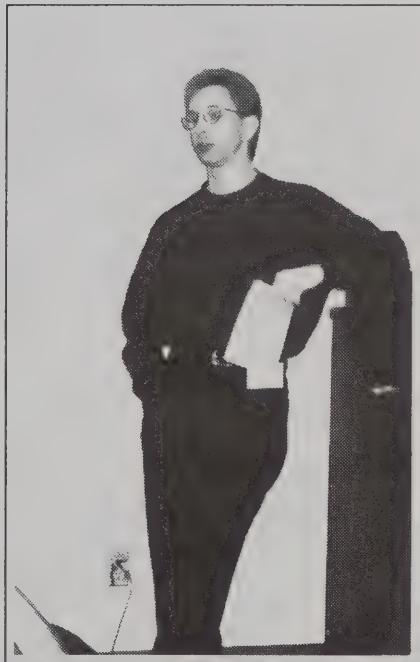
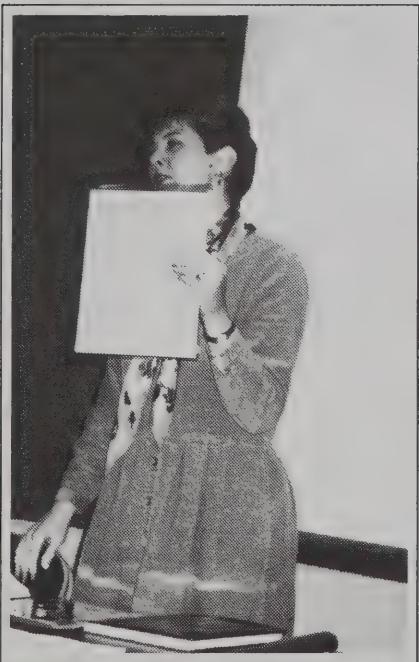
I thought a report from the viewpoint of a complete Internet idiot might be of value, so here goes. I thought the site was very neatly designed -- compact, but expandable -- and quite tastefully done (one of my crotchety gripes at contemporary design is the compulsion to use garish and distracting wallpaper; however, even I accepted the pale marble backgrounds as being pleasant and in good taste).

I went through all the links, and found them useful. Of course, I had been happy to read that *The Asylum* index had been incorporated into the Harry Bass Index project. I also tested this, and since it came up with my previous contributions when prompted, I found it quite satisfactory. I will have to get after SAN (Society for Ancient Numismatics) to get on there as well. My congratulations.

Bill Malkmus

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### NBS Meeting Participants Cincinnati ANA Mid-Winter Convention, March 20, 1998



BEAUTY AND ...



■ FOR SALE: *Mehl's Numismatic Monthly*. Volumes I-X complete, bound by Alan Grace in matching green half morocco, housed two per case in five matching slipcases, ex-Mendelson, October, 1992, lot 53 \$3,500.00

■ FOR SALE: *Numismatic Review* Volumes 1-4. 1943-1947, complete, bound by Alan Grace in two matching crimson half morocco solander boxes, ex-Mendelson, October, 1992, lot 55 \$850.00

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# Announcing the Sale of the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Numismatic Library

## *An Overview of the Bass Library*

First, a few caveats may be in order. Several hundred important volumes have graciously been donated to the American Numismatic Society Library and the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Research Foundation has retained an excellent reference library on American numismatics. Furthermore, Harry Bass was not a slave to completion and his main interest was centered on American coins.

On the plus side, Harry Bass bought libraries – entire libraries – many of them – over three decades. *Anything* may turn up, from a classic multi-volume work on the coins of Brunswick to key references on ancient numismatics and Renaissance medals. Also on the plus side, when it comes to rare and important works on American coins, virtually *everything* – even with the exceptions already noted – will appear for sale in the upcoming four Bass auctions and *more than one* example of some of the rarest titles will come up for sale.

As this is being written, the Bass books, catalogues, periodicals and other materials to be sold reside in 173 unopened cartons, weighing something approaching four tons. Four solid days were spent packing the library, which was housed in four different locations. Your cataloguer knows far from everything that is there. Yet, in sum, our sense is that the Harry W. Bass, Jr. library is among the most valuable private numismatic libraries ever formed in the United States and, even not counting the items not to be sold, it may well end up being the most valuable numismatic library ever to appear at auction.

## *Highlights*

Any listing of highlights will be woefully inadequate, especially given our current lack of in-depth knowledge. The library is especially rich in classic 19th and 20th century American auction sale catalogues – thousands of them, often annotated copies with impressive pedigrees. Please take our word for it, when it comes to books, catalogues and periodicals on American coins, almost every rarity and standard title will be sold over the next two years and often more than one example will be offered. Most volumes will include a bookplate specially-designed by the Bird & Bull Press, printed in two colors by letterpress and incorporating an image especially to HWB's liking – that of the sagacious owl. Harry Bass bought nice books and they have been carefully kept in that state. Plates from one copy and text from another have not been wedded in unholy matrimony, with the presiding official a bookbinder. Harry W. Bass, Jr. was a connoisseur, and owning one or more desirable volumes from his library – identifiable by the handsomely-designed Bird & Bull Press bookplate accompanying it – will be a source of pride to any numismatic bibliophile.

### *The Plan*

It is anticipated that the great majority of the most important Bass holdings will be offered in four sales, the first scheduled for December 1998, the last slated for Summer of the year 2000.

- *Sale One* will feature most of the key non-American numismatic works but will also contain an excellent selection of American rarities.
- *Sale Two* will be devoted to a wide range of major works on American numismatics.
- *Sale Three* will feature the remaining key non-American titles, along with a large contingent of important American works.
- *Sale Four* will be devoted to rare and desirable American titles.

### *The Catalogues*

The four sale catalogues will be issued in uniform format with high production values. The covers, like the bookplates, have been specially designed by Henry Morris of the estimable Bird & Bull Press. There will be numerous illustrations, a number in color, and the descriptions will be carefully done, informative, and bibliographically-detailed. Prior provenances will be noted where known and proper credit will be given when the research of others is cited. A detailed index will accompany each catalogue and a cumulative index will be included in the final catalogue. Our aim will be to provide a practical bibliography of American numismatic literature rarities within the four volumes containing the principal works in the Bass library. Satisfaction is guaranteed and catalogues may be returned for a full refund without question.

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# THE ASYLUM

*Quarterly Journal of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society*

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Volume XVI, No. 4

Fall, 1998

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## CONTENTS

President's Message Michael Sullivan . . . . .	2
Some Random Numismatic Reminiscences - Part 3 of 3 Randolph Zander . . . . .	4
The Printer's Devil ~ The 9th Annual Shammies Awards Joel J. Orosz . . . . .	14
Letter to the Editor Mike Hodder . . . . .	19
The Asylum: 1999 Publication Schedule . . . . .	20
The Whitman Numismatic Journal Bob Christie . . . . .	21
New York Auction Trumps Montel Show on NBC V. Arefiev . . . . .	23
;Show and Tell! Wayne Homren . . . . .	24
More on Charles C. Rood Pete Smith . . . . .	29
George Marion Klein of Vicksburg: My Great-Grandfather J. H. McInnis . . . . .	36
Variants of the 1851 Roper Auction Sale Catalogue P. Scott Rubin . . . . .	37
Between the Covers Bill Murray . . . . .	39
News from the Net Pete Smith . . . . .	40

ROBERT BURTON

1577-1640

“I no sooner come into the library, but I bolt the door,  
excluding lust, ambition, avarice ... in the lap of eternity  
amongst so many divine souls, I take my seat with so lofty  
a spirit and sweet content that I pity all our great ones and  
rich men who know not this happiness.”



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Editor: George F. Kolbe

New Publication Editor: Marilyn Reback, P. O. Box 1110, Monument, CO 80132  
New Editor-in-Chief: Bob Metzger, P. O. Box 307, Lakeville, MN 55044-0307

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**N. B. S. Membership:** \$15.00 annual dues in North America, \$20.00 elsewhere. Members receive all issues of the current volume. Requests for membership should be submitted to the Secretary-Treasurer.

## *President's Message*

I am happy to report that Numismatic Bibliomania Society members voted 60 to 1 to adopt the revised NBS Constitution and By-Laws printed in the last issue of *The Asylum*, effective October 24, 1998.

This final issue of *The Asylum* for 1998 brings with it many important club updates, news, and changes. Most important is a change in editorship starting in 1999. George Kolbe assumed the reins for the second time as editor of our struggling publication in 1996. Having been at the helm for the last three years, our beloved editor's combination of compelling business and personal responsibilities has required him to pass the baton to our ninth editors: Marilyn Reback and Bob Metzger. Ms. Reback assumes the roll of publication editor. You may be familiar with Ms. Reback's other work as assistant editor of *The Numismatist* and as new editor of *Paper Money*. Ms. Reback will be responsible for receiving your articles, editing, correspondence with advertisers, and other duties agreed by the board to ensure continued timely amalgamation into a professional publication.

Bob Metzger, a fellow NBS member, assumes the role of editor-in-chief (EIC). Since he has actively participated in NBS for a number of years, the board concluded he would be an invaluable conduit between the organization and Ms. Reback, to solicit articles and contributions to our publication, to work with the editor regarding content, and lastly to serve as a non-voting member of the board of directors consistent with our Constitution and By-Laws. I personally thank George Kolbe for the outstanding contribution he has made to *The Asylum* and NBS. He will be continuing his contribution to NBS as a valued member of the board of directors. Let's all welcome and support Ms. Reback and Mr. Metzger in their respective new roles.

The board of directors continues to meet on a quarterly basis, resulting in several actions and decisions, a summary of which follows:

### ADVERTISING IN NBS PUBLICATIONS OR THE NBS WEB SITE

The board affirmed that only NBS members or companies in which a principal owner is a member may advertise in NBS publications or the NBS Web Site. Advertising rates for *The Asylum* are printed in the publication.

Effective January 1999, advertising will be permitted on the NBS Web Site. Ads will be run for 6 consecutive months for a fee per one-fifth page of \$40 or \$65 for the first and second ad positions. One ad change per 6 month contract term will be allowed. The 6 month advertising fee is payable in advance. For information on placing a NBS Web Site ad, please contact Wayne Homren.

#### E-MAIL SUBSCRIBER NEWSLETTER

I've received several inquiries regarding the NBS E-Mail Subscriber Newsletter issued by Mr. Wayne Homren. In summary, the intent of this electronic newsletter is to promote NBS and provide educational information. Since the newsletter recipients are not required to be NBS members, the newsletter will be edited to exclude inappropriate information. For example, we will not feel compelled to share information regarding auctions or other commercial ventures for non-members. Hopefully we can transition some of the electronic newsletter subscribers to full fledged members of NBS over a period of time.

#### NBS 1999 - AN OVERVIEW

- *March 1999:* The next Issue of *The Asylum* and Call for Nominations for New Officers and Board Members.
- *June 1999:* Pre-ANA Convention *Asylum* issue and NBS Elections
- *August 1999:* ANA Convention in Chicago. Competitive Exhibits in the Literature Category need to be in place between 10 AM on the 10th and 11 AM on the 11th. Our club meeting and education forum will be held Friday, August 13th from 6:30 - 8 PM.
- *September 1999:* The third issue of *The Asylum* will be published.
- *December 1999:* The fourth issue of *The Asylum* will be published.

On a personal note, this concludes my 15th year collecting numismatic literature from a fledgling beginning in both Cal Wilson and George Kolbe's fall/winter 1983 auctions in which I was unsuccessful. It might have been a slow start, but 15 years later the floors in my house need to be reinforced. This is a great hobby for the cognoscenti.

#### New NBS Members

The following persons are now members of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society, approved by the board per our revised By-Laws: Stephen James, David Davis, Harry Cabluck, Jim Stofle, Lee Surface.

#### ASYLUM BACK ISSUES NEEDED

Pursuant to the recent decision of the Board to supply photocopies of unavailable back issues of *The Asylum*, the following numbers are needed for copying purposes: Vol. 1, all; Vol. 2, Nos. 3 & 4; Vol. 4, No. 2; Vol. 10, Nos. 2, 3 & 4; Vol. 12, No. 1. Funds are available for purchase, due to the generosity of a new member, or the needed issues may be donated.

David Hirt, *Secretary-Treasurer*

## Some Random Numismatic Reminiscences - Part 3 of 3

Randolph Zander

King Farouk was lucky to be let out of Egypt alive after Gen. Naguib's 1953 coup. Of the surfeit of chattels he left behind, only the coins, medals and banknotes concern us. The Government turned to Sotheby's to auction these in Cairo as soon as possible. To do the actual cataloguing Sotheby's engaged Fred Baldwin, the managing director of the Baldwin firm and a vastly experienced numismatist. The result was an inch-thick catalogue for the sale which lasted over 10 days in February-March, 1954.

King Farouk's immense collection was mostly post-1800. Excluding withdrawn items, mainly Egyptian, there were some 8,500 gold pieces, roughly 50,000 silver and copper pieces, some 6,000 banknotes plus almost 25,000 German and other notgeld notes. Patterns, novodels, rarities, off-metal and unpublished pieces were in abundance. There was a salting of often comically misrepresented items that had been foisted off on the impressionable monarch, along with a few forgeries. Max Mehl had charmed the King, whose normal perspective focused on Europe and the Levant, into forming, *inter alia*, one of the finest extant U. S. collections, furnished largely by himself.

The Russian element was comparatively weak – over 300 gold and platinum items, and somewhat over 1000 silver and copper coins and medals, plus an album with close to a thousand wartime and civil war notes. Predictably, I was attracted above all to a group of about 500 copper coins, sure to include novodels and rarities. Though this lot fetched only £(Egyptian) 40, I lost it; Albert Baldwin, in this case too conscientious an agent, let it go, he said, because the coins had been cleaned.

This was in fact a peculiarity of a great many of King Farouk's minor coins – mainly copper – that would be thought susceptible to tarnish or toning. These were commonly polished with jewelers' rouge and then generously lacquered. Farouk's gold and most of his major silver coins escaped the indignity. For example, one lot I bought had nickel 1863, 1871 and 1911 patterns (mostly lacquered). Kuchler 1804 silver-gilt die trails (untouched) and a Moldavian presentation silver two-para piece (also left free).

Among the forgeries not described as such were two egregious Russian specimens – a forged 1725 copper plate ruble and a matching 1726 square Poltina. These made £E45 and £E40 respectively – a tip-off that they were bad. The buyer was Howard Gibbs, one of the shrewdest collectors of his generation.<sup>15</sup>

Uncle Fred Baldwin, reinforced later by Albert Baldwin, did a heroic job of preparing the material for auction. The Egyptian Government was

prodding and impatient, work surroundings were atrocious, obtrusive armed guards got in the way, decent photography was impossible. Quite a few important items' imperfect descriptions had to be put right. The sheer volume was overwhelming, errors crept in, everything had to be shoe-horned into one catalogue, all the while doing as little injustice as possible to pieces of capital importance.

Just about everyone would have been better served – the Government, most interested people in the 1954 numismatic community and the generations of numismatists who have followed – if the Egyptians had taken the expert's advice. Of course for a single auction there were far too many good things, too jammed together, for any conspiratorially-minded bidders to organize a buying syndicate for any specific category, but the surfeit achieved the same effect of producing unrealistically depressed prices most of the time. Of the attendees, the few with the deepest pockets came away happiest – it was very much a dealers' sale.



John Gartner's Hawthorne Press of Melbourne produced some of the most tasteful editions of these years. Collectors know him better as one of the foremost philatelists alive and as almost as important a numismatist. He and I were of an age, give or take a year or two. He published, on a pro bono basis, numismatic works, such as Selwyn Mort's 1959 book on Hapsburg mints and mint-marks (the poor man's Miller zu Aichholz), a worthy resurrection of Sydney Eastwood's Pittsburgh "occasional numismatic pamphlet" *Numisma* of the 1940s, and a definitive catalogue of communion tokens of the Antipodes and other far places where overseas Scots congregated.

Close to 40 years ago John Gartner and I went halves on the purchase of quite a good collection of coins from a Russian refugee. The owner had managed to bring the collection intact to Australia through a hair-raising slow-motion post WWII evacuation of a body of Harbin Russians via Shanghai and the Philippines. Details of the collection now escape me. Years ago, John gave me some rare items to offer through one of my mail auctions, and through me he repatriated some equally rare Canadian coins which ended in the Bank of Canada's collection.



Peter Landry is a retired professor at McGill University and an accomplished and much travelled ornithologist. He built a first-rate collection of Russian coins, especially pre-Petrine, and had at one time a Russian nu-

mismatic library that ranked among the best in North America. The coins are sold now – most of the post-1700 ones years ago through my lists, the wire money later through private treaty in an easy harmony between him and Gleb Budzilovich, Anders Berglund and Gerry Anaszewicz.<sup>16</sup>

With the books the story is more complicated. Peter would have preferred to sell them as a group. The ideal solution might have been for an American Numismatic Society angel to put up the money, let the ANS library keep the considerable number it needed and then convert the remainder into money for the library fund. In the event, the books were put in the hands of Douglas Saville at Spink's, he found no ready single buyer, so he consigned them to Sotheby's, who sold them at auction in November, 1981.

It was the largest offering of Russian numismatic books since the mid-30s, when Mezhkniga and the Four Continents Book Store on Lower Fifth Avenue were advertising an extraordinary array of numismatic and other scholarly material at rock-bottom prices, even for those days of financial stringency – Gornung's album of Petrine coins for \$4, the three volume Chaudoir set or Chertkov plus supplements for \$5 for either set, Tolstoi on the early Kievan coinage for \$7.50, GM corpus volumes in original paper binding, including Peter I (!), any one of the twelve for \$5 &c.

Peter Landry got his books chiefly from two sources. The first was a Montreal neighbor – an elderly Russian emigre named Vasiliev, a man who could show the shrewdest Yankee trader a thing or two. His son was an international airline pilot who was able sometimes to bring home interesting things. The other was a Mr. Davies, a Montreal dealer in scarce Russian books on the arts and on archeology in a broad sense. Many of his books carried bookplates of celebrated Russian collectors and savants. Davies died some years ago. I believe he supplied Vasiliev with a good deal of his material. He was still a first-rate source when I learned of him, years later.

It was not immediately evident that Davies served, perfectly legally in Canada, as a sort of Soviet cut-out for unobtrusively channeling American scientific and scholarly books and periodicals to Moscow on a large scale. His Russian principal furnished him working capital plus commission partly in Russian literature for him to sell. Evidently this wasn't always easy, Davies repeatedly begged me to find him names who might buy Russian coffee-table art books. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police surely knew all about him.

I remember one grotesque case: Davies sold me a set of the French edition of the GM corpus, unbound. He sent them in a beat up suitcase carried by a French-Canadian hippie. I was told to meet the carrier in the Washington National Airport, take the 18" stack of loose pages and hand the man \$500.00 in cash – all vintage le Carre style. Ira Rezak, who had more experience of Davies than I, tells me Davies often used this delivery method.

My first encounter with Vasiliev was unproductive for us both. He received me with a hospitable layout of zakuski and Stolichnaya for softeners, a splendid display of folio volumes on the Romanov tercentenary and the like, and an anemic exhibit of routine Russian coins. Peter Landry had innocently given Vasiliev a false lead. Vasiliev eventually brought out some 18th century Russian gold at asking prices half or a quarter higher than prevailing retail. I think I failed him, not realizing he was looking forward to a long evening of exhilarating vodka-driven haggling. Later on we got to know each other better and did some useful book business.



Some places take on for a time a numismatic significance way out of proportion to their size. It needs only a handful of the right people to make the difference. Such was the case with a gifted cadre of collectors interested in foreign coins in Oklahoma City around the 50s and 60s.

P. K. Anderson, Dr. John Lhotka, Jake Sureck and John Dunn constituted the critical mass. P. K., an amiable Quaker bachelor, as a petroleum engineer had spent decades prospecting in Latin America. P. K. sought out entire hoards of old silver; some he bought for bullion value plus as little as 10%, others he cherry-picked if the holders were stubborn. This was before the rash of recoveries from sunken ships, hence P. K.'s coins showed no sea-water corrosion. He bought home an amazing booty of colonial silver which he massively supplemented with judicious buys in the U. S. and Europe. At one time or another, he and I bought, sold and traded a fair volume of his sort of material.

P. K.'s collection had become one of the two or three best of its kind in our hemisphere at the time he bequeathed it to the ANS. With the Hispanic silver went his equally remarkable collection of Oklahoma store cards. From that stricken state, in the 30s devastated by the dust storms, it seemed as if half the Okies in some parts had pulled up stakes and headed west. Dozens of towns vanished, and the trade tokens of their general stores were often the sole witness of what had lately been a populated place.

P. K. was ANA president in the early 60s – not a happy period for him, who was a collector, not a fraternal-order numismatist. Wrestling with his cantankerous governors bored him. He published articles, he was outstandingly generous with researchers seeking help, and till he died in 1968 he was the first among equals in the Oklahoma City numismatic junta I have spoken of.

P. K. had a sly habit of offering to hand a visitor a beat-up 50-reales cincuentina he kept ready, he adroitly fumbled so it fell to the floor, leaving the horrified visitor with the impression it was he who had dropped the

heavy coin. P. K. wrote most of his letters on a letterhead with ANDERSON'S HALF-HACIENDA, and in Quaker style he signed "Cheerfully thine."

Dr. John Lhotka, a professor at the Oklahoma City Teaching Hospital, was well known as a medieval specialist. *The Numismatist* carried articles of his, some in collaboration with P. K. Anderson. He and his wife were of Czech extraction – she a radiantly beautiful Slavic blonde well into middle age. John's knowledge, lightly carried, and his good nature, endeared him, and he played his worthy part in the Oklahoma City numismatic junta.

Jake B. Sureck, the eldest of a family of uniformly successful children, was born in Lithuania. We met in Washington in 1944 where we both were on active duty. Jake was a partner in a prominent Oklahoma City accounting firm. He was a perfect example of the American melting pot's marvelous – now unfashionable – alchemy. Nobody could dream that this tall, weatherbeaten cowboy with the loping walk and the Southwestern twang was anything but a domestic product.

For years it was Jake's thankless, self-imposed task to put right ANA's sometimes unprofessional accounting, a valuable service that was not always appreciated. Jake toyed with the thought of running for ANA office, he would have had eager and wide support, but nothing came of it. Jake assembled in the 40s to the 60s a fine crown collection which I handled for him later. He often put me in touch with neighbors who had foreign material to dispose of. Stack's auctioned his extensive U. S. holdings. Jake's collection of Oklahoma national bank notes, his favorite and the work of years, must have been the best in the country. Like P. K.'s store cards, the notes of some ephemeral small town bank were sometimes the place's main archaeological trace. One of Jake's notes was signed by its young cashier in blue-black ink that had faded badly. Jake knew the man, by then long retired, he brought him the bill and had him write his name again – freshening up his signature.

John Dunn was a professor and publicist at the University. Jake, I think, led him into collecting crowns. He had the enthusiasm of a late comer. John and a local dealer named Brown compiled the Brown & Dunn condition guide. Before the days of ANACS with its point system Brown & Dunn had been a popular reference. John laid on the occasional numismatic conferences that the group sponsored.



Billy Coe was one of the aristocrats of the proud Postal Service of earlier times. He travelled the night railway mail car between Washington and New York and back. He lived with his mother in a high-ceilinged old apartment near the center of the capital. He had bought from me for years –

choice minor pieces mainly. He was in a way a lesser Eklund. About 25 years ago Billy took the decision to sacrifice his coins to buy a house in the suburbs. He did so philosophically, without noticeable regrets.

Billy knew the postal geography of his route in incredible detail – thousands of office buildings, apartment houses, local and federal government buildings, military addresses, hospitals, local post offices, etc. of each local stop along the 240 miles. He carried with him prayer cards he was always making to memorize changes. His schedule gave him enough free hours in New York so that after a long nap he was ready to haunt the dealers – Coin Galleries, Hans Schulman and Henry Christensen mainly. The precision of trained memory in his work served him well in choosing coins – he seems never to have bought a duplicate.

The post WWII days were a golden time to scoop up all sorts of choice material of the lesser sort as well as crowns and gold. Billy's fastidious taste about condition was no hindrance, given the availability. From among something like 3000 choice pieces that he ended with there was a tolerable Russian presence – at a guess about a couple of hundred or so. I can remember nothing truly rare, but there were quite a few coins that in fact were rare in the top shape he habitually insisted on.

For pure esthetic delight the Coe coins were an unalloyed pleasure. And I suppose, coin for coin they must since have appreciated in value more spectacularly than some more expensive items, after the fashion of *good Canadian penny mining stocks*, if there is such a thing.



Henry Grunthal's direct association, starting around 1950, with the ANS provided that he might continue, on a discreet basis, some activity as a sort of dealers' dealer – a sensible arrangement to both parties' advantage. One example was in 1955 his placing among dealers of the huge accumulation of choice gold and crowns belonging to a Mr. de Coppet, a prominent dealer in odd lots on Wall Street. Almost everyone except Wayne Raymond bought some of the coins, he showed no interest, reportedly dismissing the material as "sucker bait." Jim Kelly's scout reportedly bought from the de Coppet hoard an incredible 400 pre-1804 U. S. "daddy dollars."<sup>17</sup> At the lower end of the scale, I scraped together everything I could in order to take, in installments, close to a couple of thousand miscellaneous European crowns and some republican doubloons and 17th century English gold.

Among what I saw, there seemed to be no Latin American pesos and very few Russian rubles. De Coppet's catholic taste could certainly not have excluded such coins. I'm inclined to believe that Henry Christensen, who had gone into the coin business not long before, was building up stock and

eagerly took the Latinos, to which he was partial. As for the Russians, it is possible that Henry had made up a batch of these for Andy Kelpsh in Florida – a good friend of his who, as a side-line, ran a dealership in crowns and specially appreciated Russian coins. Seventeen years later Kelpsh's widow consigned his ruble collection, including the Reichel Constantine ruble as well as a selection of pre-Petrine wire money, to Abner Kreisberg and Jerry Cohen for auction.



Bill Woodside was a many-sided man, sure of how to devote his life. He came of an influential Pittsburgh family, he went to Harvard, but instead of joining an establishment bank or law firm he chose to become an accomplished dilettante. He was peripherally involved in the renaissance of Central Pittsburgh. He was a prominent Presbyterian layman, he had a deep and scholarly familiarity with Scottish and Western-Pennsylvania history. He studied and formed a fine cabinet of coins and tokens – pieces of the Stuart monarchs mainly (including such succulent items as a gun money half-crown in gold), and communion tokens. Bill published a number of works and articles, chiefly on communion tokens and plantation chits, including Grieg, Robinson & Woodside on Australian, New Zealand and Miscellaneous series [of communion tokens], as put out by John Gartner's Hawthorne Press in Melbourne.

Bill's most important work was setting up and nurturing the coin cabinet of the Carnegie Institute's Museum. It should have been his most enduring contribution. He secured many important donations, a number of them on the premise that they were to stay with the Museum in perpetuity. He drew together a small group of volunteer staffers who worked zealously with him to put the rich and very varied material in perfect order. Bill was not robust, but he never spared himself, and late in middle age he developed the Pittsburgher's common affliction of emphysema. During Bill's final illness, the Carnegie people decided to deaccession the coin collection; and devote the money to its main interest in the natural sciences. The timing was too bad, perhaps by accident – it seemed like kicking a man when he's down. The development devastated Bill and he died not long afterward (the ultimate outcome took time and litigation to hammer out. The Museum's initial plan, more's the pity, was essentially sustained).

Through Bill I bought the fine library and a large segment of the coins and tokens of Verner Scaife, a passionate collector who, among his varied interests, gave a priority to British colonial coins and tokens within the general parameters of Fred Pridmore's research. Once unexpectedly from Bill I had half a dozen very nice 1710 and 1712 rubles, obviously liberated

by some soldier. Bill gave me some silver of Charles I of his to sell, but for the most part our relation was numismatically platonic.



Ray Byrne was a third generation Pittsburgh undertaker, outstandingly skilled in cosmetic reconstruction; he was a broadly committed civic activist as well as a numismatist who was extremely active in organizational affairs without prejudice to the sustained study and intensive collecting of south-of-the-border coins and tokens. Later he focused solely on the infinitely challenging West-Indian series. It was at this shift of specialty that Ray sold me a fine range of his mainland Hispanic pieces.

It was no secret that Ray's overreaching interest was numismatics. His widowed mother, a formidable matriarch, held him to the family business, but not long after her death he sold the firm, along with the cavernous Victorian house. Then he and Marge took themselves, large brood, coins and books to Florida. Ever the man people turned to in order to get things done, he got elected right away to be head of his condominium board.

Ray had been silently conducting a resolute delaying action against cancer for many years, never until far along letting it curtail his full life. Few of us – certainly not I – understood how gravely burdensome this was: I remember before his last Christmas he phoned me for what seemed like an offhand seasonal tour d'horizon; it was not till later that I realized this was Ray's touching farewell.

Ray must have written a good three dozen articles on his subject, he spoke and exhibited often, and when he consigned his "Caribbees" to Jess Peters to auction in 1975, he worked meticulously to achieve what he hoped would be a definitive catalogue and something of a memorial to himself. The catalogue ran to over 1500 numbers, the photography was exceptional (Ray was a first rate man with the close-up camera), the text struck me, admittedly no expert in the field, as of high order. Some 25 pieces were withdrawn – not bad out of 1500 for a subject bristling with ambiguities and uncertainties.

Ray often spoke with respect of Fred Pridmore, in his day the ultimate authority on the coins of the British West Indies (among numerous other series). Pridmore gave Peter Mitchell (whom he designated to catalogue his collection for auction) to understand that Ray was a bit stand-offish with him – a disturbing dissonance in what I had always thought of as a singularly productive relationship.

Ray Byrne was what can be described as a joyous collector. He enjoyed his subject, he certainly enjoyed numismatic company; he founded the Pittsburgh Sphinx club – a meeting of serious coin people [even if you called

them sphincters], he gave a party at the ANA convention every year for the "ladies of the ANA," in those days headed by the legendary trio of Margo Russell, Virginia Culver and Eva Adams [of whom Margo long served till recently on the ANS Board]. Ray was shrewd but certainly never offensively so, he did his homework conscientiously, his heart was in the right place, and his memory wears well.



Leonid Södermann was a Helsinki collector-dealer specializing in Russian coins – much more collector than dealer. His collection and stock together may well have amounted to the finest assemblage of Russian coins outside the Hermitage. I met him only once, at the IAPN meeting in New York in 1964 when he was still a member and I was a guest. He was a stocky, self-contained man of middle height, with a pale Baltic eye. He traded me then a portrait pattern ruble of Alexander I for a set of 1911 patterns from the Farouk sale – much to his advantage of course, but I was happy nonetheless.

A little later he got in trouble with his Government. It was said that some of his fabulous collection of Russian coins he had acquired at the jeopardy of his country's security. He was detained briefly, then to avoid provocation he was quietly invited to leave Finland with his family and his partly soiled coins. He dropped out of the IAPN. He lived his last years quietly, shunned by many, and died in Switzerland.

His vast collection is largely dissipated, there was a notable gold series auctioned in 1968, some parts went by private treaty. The family must still hold elements, copper especially – the details are veiled.



The last big buy I made was in 1972. An invitation came in the mail from the executor (and cousin) of Carl O. Schwab to bid on his collection of some 6000 crowns. The collector had been an old customer for a quarter of a century, though he had dropped out of sight a couple of years earlier.

I went out to Hamilton, Ohio, to have a look. The executor was a courtly gentleman and an amateur wine maker of almost professional skill. He got his grapes from around Erie, Pennsylvania and he turned out every year a barrel or two each of an excellent sauvignon and sauvignon cabernet, of which he and his lady were the chief consumers. Though no numismatist, he was a common-sensical lawyer and straight shooter. He told me something of his cousin's background. Like so many single-mindedly dedicated

collectors, he was a bachelor. He had made a modest blue-collar living as the distributor of Hamilton's local newspaper. His money went a long way in the halcyon 50s and 60s. He had collected U. S. coins as well as crowns, but some while back the U. S. collection had been burgled, he panicked and put his crowns away in the bank, and after that his interest had seemed to wane. Carl Schwab kept an accurate, in depth file of 5 x 8 cards; these gave him space for each coin's full vital statistics plus the pithy – sometime extended – observations on its source that Carl enjoyed often writing to himself. A favorite object for dissection was Hans Schulman. Much of this documentation went later to John Davenport.

The collection's center of gravity lay in the ±4000-piece European sector, a group of the first water. Accordingly I bid \$162,000 on these, and left aside the ±2000 Mex pesos<sup>18</sup> and associated Latin-American and Oriental dollars. Steve Eyer zeroed in on this element. The coins (plus a few medals) were expertly catalogued by a local man – Gaylord Nelson. If he could have raised the money he would have been an eager and competitive bidder. Half a dozen of us were in the bidding. One bidder solicitously phoned to warn me off the collection – I'd be a sucker to bid on a collection so full of flawed and dubious pieces, etc., etc. He had one bare scintilla of truth: Carl had begun to dip his coins and seal them in unstable plastic. Fortunately (for me as buyer) the burglary and move to the bank interrupted the program at an early stage.

Among the ±4000 coins there was a very good run of rubles. To improve condition I kept for myself a few, along with maybe 100 European pieces, most of them new to my collection. The rest buoyed up stock and helped keep me comfortably in crowns till I retired in 1975.

#### FOOTNOTES

<sup>15</sup> See elsewhere for a discussion of Gibb's apparent rationale for buying items for his odd-and-curious currency collection.

<sup>16</sup> Every big collection sold at auction presents de rigueur in the introduction the collector's prayer that later generations may enjoy his coins as much he did, etc., etc. Peter's choice of method for placing his early Russians achieved the result perfectly, with no wasted words.

<sup>17</sup> A little later Kelly offered some 125 such dollars in a spring auction.

<sup>18</sup> The large numbers of coins involved included of course, dates and mintmarks – a vast multiplier in the case of Mexican pesos and the like.



*The Printer's Devil ~ The 9th Annual Shammies Awards*  
 Joel J. Orosz, NLG

Here we are, gentle readers, nearly a decade into the Shammies Awards, and still the ballyhoo meisters keep devising new and improved ways to hyperventilate in order to move merchandise. Once more, your columnist is the sole judge of these dubious marks of distinction, which honor excellence in the employment of hyperbole to increase sales. As in years past, a second section will celebrate bloopers by the less bloatiating members of the dealer fraternity.

The "Dan Quayle's Potatoe" award goes to the *Forecaster*, for running this headline: "How Newest Economic Predictors (*sic*), Latest Political Moves, Or Procrastination May Change Your Life Forever!"

*Coin World (CW)*, November 18, 1996, p. 24.

The "Uniquer by the Million" award goes to the United States Mint, for pushing its gift catalog thusly: "We wrote the book on unique gifts."

*Numismatic News (NN)*, October 21, 1997, p. 41.

The "Don't Know Much About Geometry" award goes to Mt. Vernon Coin Company, for selling "1996 Silver Christmas Bars" with an illustration of a silver round.

*CW*, November 18, 1996, p. 58.

The "Unique—Except for a Dozen Others" award goes to Jay Parrino's The Mint, which headlined an ad for a 1927-D double eagle as "Yet another unique offering," and subheaded it as "irreplaceable," before admitting, in the agate print below, that there are other examples in existence. Judge's comment: Just how many others isn't clear, because at one point in the ad, Mr. Parrino states "one of fewer than 13 traced," while in another he says "out of the 13 specimens we can trace..."

*CW*, January 6, 1997, p. 70.

The "Special Award for Conspicuous Nincompoopery" goes to American Express Merchandise Services, for their catalog in conjunction with "The American Historic Society," that peddles such numismatic "treasures" as the "Indian head cent in a Zippo" (p. 40); the giant one pound silver proof "one hundred dollar bill" (the fine print tells us that there are over 30 square inches of .999 fine silver covering a solid copper core, p. 26); and this historical howler: pictured is an 1885-CC Morgan dollar in its General Services Administration holder, with the caption, "Still in its original packaging from the Carson City mint..."

*Spring 1997 American Express Merchandise Services mailing.*

The "Iridescent, Iridescenter, Iridescentest" award goes to Kingswood Coin Auctions, for using the word "iridescent" in eleven of twenty-four coin descriptions in a single ad. Judge's comment: Quoting the firm, this is redundant "per say" (*sic*). *CW, May 26, 1997, pp. 35-37.*

The "Not All That Glitters is a White Coin" award goes to perennial honoree David Hall, for shilling a 1910-S Barber half dollar. Hall's paradoxical description follows: "This coin is creamy, creamy white. There's a tinge of golden iridescent toning as proof of this coin's total originality." Judge's comment: To summarize, this coin is 100% white—except for the parts that are toned. *CW, July 7, 1997, p. 45.*

The "Full of Sound and Fury, Signifying Nothing" award goes to New World Rarities, Ltd., for offering assorted almost uncirculated Morgans with the dangling catch line: "Mint state coins are now over three thousand dollars!" *NN, October 21, 1997, p. 47.*

The "Limits of the Unlimited Upside" award goes to double winner Jay Parrino, who trumpets "the biggest innovation in rare coin sales since the introduction of third party grading. Liquidity revolutionizes the marketplace. The game has been changed forever." Judge's comment: All of this fuss is about Parrino's "The Mint repurchase program," which offers to repurchase, at any time, any coin bought from him for 90% of its Certified Coin Dealer Newsletter index value. For one who usually touts the "unlimited upside" of the coins he sells, this is a cautious guarantee indeed.

*CW, June 16, 1997, p. 56.*

The "Give or Take a Century" award goes to triple winner Jay Parrino, for headlining his ad "Monsters from the eighteenth century," which ad offered large cents from 1802 and 1803, a half dime from 1801, and an 1802 dollar. *NN, September 30, 1997, p. 21.*

The "Fair is Foul and Foul is Fair" award goes to Paul J. Bosco, for his catalog of the Long Island Coin Expo official auction, in which he states, "We grade conservatively and we don't sell fakes." However, lots 282A-282L are boldly headlined "Bust Half Fakes." Judge's comment: Thanks to dealer Brad Karoleff for bringing this to our attention.

*CW, October 21, 1996, pp. 28-29.*

The "What Becomes a Legend Least" award goes to quadruple winner Jay Parrino, for renaming the Eliasberg 1885 trade dollar the "world-famous Eliasberg/Parrino trade dollar." *CW, May 19, 1997, p. 41.*

The “Pardon, Your Freudian Slip Is Showing” award goes to double winner Kingswood Coin Auctions, for the description heading lot 361 in the Kingswood III auction: “Mint State Gold Commons (*sic*).”

*Kingswood III, September 24-25, 1997, p. 29.*

The “Not, However, For Lack of Trying” award goes to quintuple winner Jay Parrino, for hyping a 1910-D eagle as follows: “The English language lacks enough superlatives to describe this incredible important coin.” Judge’s comment: Elsewhere in the same ad, Mr. Parrino refers to a PAN-PAC fifty dollar round as “America’s mightiest gold coin.” As long as Mr. Parrino is in business, the English language will never be lacking for superlatives.

*CW, June 9, 1997, p. 52.*

The “Sorry, It Does Get Better Than This” award goes to double winner David Hall, for proclaiming, “every coin is gem-quality MS-65 or better and every coin is created by PCGS. It does not get any better than this!” Judge’s comment: Does Mr. Hall really believe that 1946 P-D-S Walking Liberty Halves don’t come any better than MS-65? *CW, July 14, 1997, p. 49.*

The “Fortunately For Me, I Think Every Mercury Dime I See Is Attractive” award goes to Larry Whitlow, Ltd., for beginning his ad copy with: “I have been buying every Mercury dime I have seen for over two years...” and finishing it with: “We know you don’t want unattractive coins and we don’t either!”

*NN, October 28, 1997, p. 33.*

The “One Hundred Dollars Worth of Free Grading for Only Ninety-Nine Dollars” award goes to PCGS, which offers “One hundred dollars worth of free PCGS grading,” to secure which one need only join the PCGS Collectors Club—for ninety-nine dollars per year.

*CW, September 29, 1997, p. 43.*

The “Most Unintentionally Accurate Statement of the Year” award goes to double winner PCGS, for headlining an ad, “At PCGS, one thing never changes ... your coins are the most important coins in the world!” Judge’s comment: You will note that they did not mention grading nor grading standards as the “one thing [that] never changes” at PCGS!

*CW, August 18, 1997, p. 39.*

The “Move Over, Gilmor, Mickley, Stickney, Bushnell, Parmelee, Garrett, Brand, Eliasberg, Boyd, Norweb, and Pittman” award goes to sextuple winner Jay Parrino, who pictures twelve rarities from his inventory, modestly labeling each a “national treasure,” then proclaiming, “Presented here is the most amazing group of classic American rarities ever assembled in the

history of American numismatics." Judge's comment: Presented here is the most amazing presumptuous overstatement in the history of American numismatics!

NN, October 21, 1997, p. 15.

The "Most Lyrical Way to Describe Corrosion" award goes to John Franklin, who pitches Eight Real Cobs salvaged from off the coast of South America thusly: "These Cobs were high grade when they made their fateful journey to the ocean floor. Today, they retain great detail while not denying their three-hundred-year odyssey." Judge's note: It might be more accurate to describe them as having gone through a three-hundred-year Iliad!

CW, January 5, 1998, p. 17.

The "Free—For Two Dollars" award goes to the Bay State Coin Show, for offering a free Indian cent—for paying a two-dollar admission charge.

NN, October 21, 1997, p. 53.

The "Incredible Shrinking Silver Certificate" award goes to double winner Mt. Vernon Coin Company, for selling U.S. one-dollar silver certificates with the comment: "A terrific buy on a quickly vanishing issue."

CW, December 29, 1997, p. 21.

The "We Can Only Hope It Will Also Be a Numismatic Last" award goes to the republics of Zambia and the Marshall Islands, for issuing the same coins (albeit the Zambian coin is "minted in a gleaming solid cupronickel" while the Marshall Islands coin is "minted prooflike, solid brass, as radiant as the golden sunset..."). Judge's comment: The "solid brass" of the Marshall Islands authorities was illustrated in 1997 when they refused to redeem a number of their past "legal tender" issues.

Pamphlet issued by [www.unicover.com](http://www.unicover.com), 1997.

The "Practically Pregnant" award goes to septuple winner Jay Parrino (an all-time record!), who qualifies his qualification in hawking a 1795 half dime. Parrino says it "is a coin of nearly unimaginable (*sic*) quality." Judge's aside: Quoting Han Solo, Mr. Parrino, "I can imagine quite a bit." Further, Mr. Parrino goes on to say, "though perhaps not fully struck, ... it is nearly without peer." Judge's comment: One might hesitate to pay \$65,000 for a coin that may or may not be fully struck, may or may not have a peer, and may or may not be of unimaginable quality! Thanks to NBS member Peter Mosiondz, Jr., for bringing this gem to our attention.

NN, January 6, 1998, p. 13.

Now we turn to numismatic bloopers for the year:

The "Not Quite Professor Moriarity" award goes to the hapless thug who attempted to burgle an Ocean City, New Jersey coin shop in January of 1997. Police responding to the shop's alarm found the perpetrator passed out on the floor from being "badly intoxicated," and bleeding from cuts sustained during his clumsy break-in effort. He was charged with burglary and attempted theft, but surprisingly, not with criminal stupidity.

*CW, February 3, 1997, p. 74.*

The "Most Insightful Header of the Year" award has two worthy claimants. The first is the headline writer for *Numismatic News*, who stated, "Scarcity has significant impact on value." The second is the scribe for *Coin World*, who sagely observed: "Lincoln Cents Focus of LCS Bulletin." The initials "LCS," of course, stand for "Lincoln Cent Society."

*NN, January 6, 1998, p. 6 & CW, November 3, 1997, p. 26.*

The "Then How Can You Tell It Has Been Repaired?" award goes to the caption writer for *Numismatic News*, who stated, "An excellent reengraving job removed traces of the chopmark from the eagle's breast on the reverse of the Trade Dollar, right. This repair defies detection."

*NN, September 23, 1997, p. 24.*

The "It Helps to Read the Story" award goes to the *Coin World* headline writer, who penned, "Sealand 'Coins' are oil platform owners' fantasy." The article below the caption states that the "Principality of Sealand" is actually an abandoned World War II sea fort called Rough's Tower.

*CW, January 5, 1998, p. 16.*

Finally, two non-numismatic chuckles:

The "Let's Pray That It Is Heavily Insured" award goes to stealthmail @aol.com for urging recipients of this e-mail spam to "Explode your business now!"

*Spam received July 10, 1997.*

The "Clear Days on the Washington Scene" award goes to Senator Peter Domenici (R-NM), for these sentiments, taken verbatim from a speech: "Let me say first that I am not one of those privileged senators who has met Mother Teresa and been with her for any length of time, although I have met her once. But I believe that it is fair to say that even while I have not met her..."

*Congressional Record, September 9, 1997.*

That is it for the best of the worst in numismatic ads for this year. Be with us next year as we celebrate a full decade of the Shammies!

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I read Joel Orosz' most recent "Printer's Devil" with interest. Joel writes nicely, with an even style. Although I pride myself on being *au courant* with things internet-ish I confess I do not have a CD drive in my home computer. Consequently, I can't appreciate the pleasures of *The Riches of Coins* CD and must rely on Joel's review for my information about its contents.

Joel mentions an interview with Eric Newman, in which Newman talks about some of the highlights from his own collection. Joel mentions two of them, the 1792 gold Washington President piece and the 1861 Confederate half dollar. According to Joel's story, Newman claims that the former was Washington's own pocket piece and the latter may have been Jefferson Davis' own specimen. These are pretty impressive pedigrees, to say the least, but I'm afraid they cannot positively be substantiated.

The first owner of the gold 1792 Washington President piece I know of was Gustavus Myers. In 1855 he took it to the US Mint in Philadelphia to ask officials there if they knew anything about its origins. Mint officers could tell him nothing beyond their supposition that the piece had been made in Birmingham, England. The Mint did not tell Myers that the piece had once been Washington's. Myers learned nothing more about the piece. He later gave it to Colonel Mendes Cohen.

The earliest claim I know of that links the 1792 gold piece to Washington is in Edward Cogan's catalogue description of it for the Mendes Cohen sale (October 25, 1875), in which Cogan wrote that he thought it was "...most probably struck in compliment to General Washington...and that it was...possibly used as a pocket piece..." Cohen did not claim that the piece was Washington's own although his description was crafted to leave that impression with the reader. Cogan concluded by excusing what he had written about its link to Washington with these words "Be this as it may, it will be invaluable to any one collecting Washington Coins or Medals."

Crosby knew of the gold piece and mentioned it on page 356 of *The Early Coins of America* (1875). Crosby did not call it Washington's pocket piece, either. He simply stated his belief that it was part of a pattern proposal for a coinage contract, along with the silver and copper specimens known of the same type.

William S. Baker listed the gold piece in his *Medallic Portraits of Washington* (1885) and like Crosby before him, made no claim for its being more than what it appeared to be on its face, a unique and enigmatic coin struck from what Baker called experimental dies.

In 1890, when the piece was next catalogued for sale, the previously conjectural connection to Washington had begun to harden into fact. It was described in the Parmelee sale catalogue as "It is very probable that Washington had this pocket piece given him and the slight wear it shows would indicate its use as a pocket piece." This is a nice bit of tautology, of course, in which slight wear shows that a pocket piece is a pocket piece! The cataloguer's reasons for writing as he did is probably as much an attempt to make something enigmatic more understandable as it was an exercise in salesmanship.

H. P. Smith, himself, bought the coin for \$220, and after a span during which its whereabouts are untraceable, it was subsequently owned by Wayne Raymond, Colonel E. H. R. Green, B. G. Johnson, and most recently Eric Newman. By the time Newman wrote his apologia for the piece, in *Studies on Money in Early America*, (1976), what had begun as just a possibility for Ed Cogan in 1875 and a probability for Smith in 1890 became a century later a certainty, for Newman unhesitatingly titled his story "George Washington's Unique 1792 Pattern in Gold".

Washington's well publicized refusal to allow his portrait to appear on the obverse of the national coinage in 1792 suggests to me that the last thing he would have carried around in his pocket would have been a gold pattern coin with his portrait on it. The unique gold 1792 Washing-

ton piece is important enough in its own right not to need enhancement by what appears to be an unsupportable pedigree.

Four examples of the 1861 Confederate half dollar are known. Newman's specimen has been pedigreed as follows: New Orleans Mint; Dr. E. Ames of New Orleans; his son; the Ames family; unknown intermediaries; a Rondout, New York tailor named Marks Jacobs, who is said to have found the coin in a roll of federal half dollars and could not spend it since local merchants refused it as fake; Tom Elder, to whom Jacobs showed the coin in 1910 and sold it in 1912; H. O. Granberg; William Woodin; Waldo Newcomer; Colonel Green; B. G. Johnson; Eric Newman nearly 40 years ago. In the August, 1946 issue of *The Numismatist* what would later become Newman's coin was offered on a "Price on Request" basis by the Celina Coin Company (Ted and Carl Brandts. Celina handled some of the rarest coins of them all in the middle 1940s, including an 1884 and 1885 trade dollar, the unique 1870-S \$3, and an Unc. 1796 With Pole half cent, to name just some. Celina is said to have gotten these rarities from B. G. Johnson). Newman showed the coin publicly at the April, 1957 meeting of the Central States Numismatic Convention. To the best of my knowledge, Newman's statement on the *Riches of Coins* CD that his coin may have been Jefferson Davis' own is the first time such a claim has ever been made for it. The reconstructed pedigree for Newman's coin leaves no room for its ownership by Jefferson Davis. I would like to know on what basis Newman could claim the Davis pedigree for

his coin.

An entirely different specimen of the 1861 Confederate half dollar has been pedigreed as Jefferson Davis' own coin, the only one that, by process of elimination, could have been sent to the CSA government in Richmond. This is the piece given by the New Orleans Mint to CSA Secretary of the Treasury C. G. Memminger. Memminger presented it to Davis, from whom it was stolen by Union soldiers just before Davis was transferred to Fortress Monroe in May, 1865 (Davis' Sabine Pass medal was also stolen at the same time). Between 1865 and 1951 the coin was owned by various men, including one named Mark Bream of Cashtown, PA, who had owned it in 1936 and who showed it that year to friends during the Washington Numismatic Society's meeting at Gettysburg. Its existence was published to the collecting world in the January, 1951 issue of *The Numismatist*. In 1961 it was bought at a coin show by the present owner. This coin is available for sale.

Of the two other 1861 CSA half dollars known, one was kept by the chief coiner of the New Orleans Mint and is now at the ANS and the other was presented to Professor Riddle (in 1879 the name was given as Biddle) of New Orleans and is owned by a New England collector. Neither of them was presented to or owned by Jefferson Davis.

It seems to me that neither of the pedigrees Newman claimed for these two coins can stand.

MIKE HODDER

## THE ASYLUM

### 1999 PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Issue No. 1	March 1999	Submission Deadline: December 1
Issue No. 2	June 1999	Submission Deadline: March 1
Issue No. 3	September 1999	Submission Deadline: June 1
Issue No. 4	December 1999	Submission Deadline: September 1

## The Whitman Numismatic Journal Bob Christie

In his description of this magazine as lot 170 of his 55th sale on June 19, 1993, George Kolbe wrote the following:

An important, if largely unappreciated and nowadays little known source of numismatic information on a wide variety of topics. Articles of American interest include an update by Eric Newman on "The Fantastic 1804 Dollar," Walter Breen on the Billon Sous Marques of Canada, Richard Kenney on early American diesinkers and medallists, Lynn Glaser on three unique Massachusetts coppers, Breen on American coin type names, etc.

This lot, purchased by me, is how I became acquainted with this 7 1/2 inch tall magazine. Issued by the Whitman Publishing Company of Racine, Wisconsin from January, 1964 to December 1968 and edited throughout its five-year existence by R. S. Yeoman, Ken Bressett, and Neil Shafer, I consider this magazine to be one of the "stars" of my library. I was particularly impressed by the diversity of articles. Whether your interest is United States coins, tokens, world coins, Canadian or Mexican numismatics, there are articles of interest for everyone. In a January 27, 1998 letter to me, Ken Bressett mentioned that he, Neil Shafer, and Lawrence Block (who was an editor from October, 1964 to January, 1966), wrote most of the articles. They used a variety of names to make it look like a larger staff.

The cover of each issue is graced with an illustration of a different coin or token, most of which I'd never seen before. Thankfully, they are identified in the *Journal Jottings* section inside the front cover. This section didn't begin until the February, 1965 issue. Unfortunately, most cover coins from 1964 aren't identified. Just seeing each cover coin caused me to at least want to learn more about it if not to begin a collection of the coins of the country represented. It makes me wonder how many collections may have been started by other readers of this magazine with similar inclinations. The September, 1965 cover coin is described in *Journal Jottings* as "This hunk of misshapen metal is a specimen of Celtic Ring Money of the sort current in Ireland long before St. Patrick drove the snakes from the Green Isle." An accurate description. It's hard to believe this coiled snakelike piece of metal was used as money. The November, 1965 cover coin, an 1803 Pietak of Russia, was included in Robert W. Julian's article *Copper Coinage of Imperial Russia, 1700-1916* in the same issue.

### LIGHT FROM MANY LAMPS

Of interest to numismatic bibliophiles is Ken Bressett's reviews of books from the period appearing under the above byline. It ran as a series through-

out the five years of publication. It would be impossible as well as boring to list every book reviewed, so I have listed ten of the most obscure (at least to me) titles:

1. *Catalog of German War Tokens* by Robert A. Lamb, published by the author, 1963, 141 illustrated pages.
2. *The Coins of Guatemala 1733-1963*, by Charles M. Robinson III, published by the author, San Berido, Texas, January 1964, 31 pages, large octavo, illustrated.
3. *United States Major and Minor Mint Error Types*, by Delmas Ford, published by the author, Del City, Oklahoma, 1964, 52 pages, illustrated.
4. *Coins of Jersey and Guernsey*, by Alcedo Almanzar, published by the author at 741 Milam Building, San Antonio, Texas, 19 pages, illustrated, softcover. [If you, like me, never heard of Guernsey and Jersey, Ken's review states that they are two British Channel Islands. The author covered all coinage issues from their earliest (1830 and 1841 respectively)].
5. *The Silver Coinage of Imperial Russia 1682 to 1917* by H. M. Severin, printed in Switzerland and published jointly by Münzen und Medaillen of Basel, Jacques Schulman of Amsterdam and Spink & Son, Ltd., of London, 1965, 276 pages, 48 plates.
6. *The History of Coins of Honduras* by Paul J. Huben II, Route 2, Box 251A, Marion, Alabama. Published privately by the author, 1965, large octavo, 34 pages.
7. *Trade Tokens of Saskatchewan* by C. C. Tannahill, Canadian Numismatic Research Society, 1966. Softcover.
8. *The Coinage of Cuba 1870 to Date* by Thomas Lismore, published by Roy Renderer, 5138 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami, Florida, 1966. Softcover, 147 pages, illustrated.
9. *Standard Catalogue, Hong Kong Coins and Currency Notes-British Trade Dollars* by Antonio B. de Sausa. Distributed by R. E. de Sausa, De Sausa's Auction Rooms Ltd., 7577 Wundham St., Hong Kong, 1967. Softcover, 47 pages, illustrated.
10. *Catalogue of Belgium Coins as from 1832 till 1964* by Frans Morin, Boom, Belgium, 1964. Softcover, 87 pages, illustrated.

#### A FOND FAREWELL

In the December, 1968 issue, the reason for discontinuing the magazine was given in the *Journal Jottings* section as follows:

Our desire to abandon this enjoyable project lies in the fact that we believe our publishing program can be better projected toward the production of books and other hobby items for collectors. In the future, our full facilities will be used in that direction.

It's sad that such a quality should come to an end. It is obvious that the editors loved what they were doing and were dedicated to putting *fun* into this great hobby of ours. In my opinion, this is one of the most underrated numismatic magazines.

I hope my fellow bibliomaniacs have the opportunity to purchase at least a partial set of the *Whitman Numismatic Journal* some day to prove me right.

## New York Auction Trumps Montel Show on NBC

V. Arefiev



BEFORE



AFTER

If you are a Jerry Springer fan on NBC, then you probably would not be aware that from time to time Montel Williams on the same network has brought happily together brothers and sisters or other family members who were separated early in their lives and may not have seen or heard from each other in decades.

The same, but far less frequently and with a more select audience, may also happen with books.

In November, 1981, through John Drury, I acquired at the Sotheby Landry numismatic literature auction in London, five volumes bound in red morocco of *Mémoires de la Société d'Archéologie et de Numismatique...*, published in St. Petersburg between 1847 and 1852. A stamp on the inside leaf indicated it was from the library of C. Naryshkin, a descendant from a Russian boyar family related to the Romanoffs (Peter the Great's mother was Naryshkina).

The *Mémoires* are widely considered to be Russia's first numismatic periodical. Printed in editions of approximately 300 copies, its publication was subsidized by the Crown and its chief editor was baron B. von Köhne — a prolific writer and the former editor and publisher of *Zeitschrift für Münz-, Siegel-, und Wappenkunde*, Berlin, 1841-1846.

This very attractive and enviably pedigreed set had, however, a major flaw — it lacked volume three. Several options were considered to fill this regretable void, including xerox, microfilm, or finding the missing volume in, preferably, original, unbound condition.

A few years ago the G. F. Kolbe firm did complete my set with a workable, already bound substitute. However, the ultimate ecstasy of reunification of the missing third volume with the rest of the set did not occur until December 6th, 1997 at the sixteenth annual George Frederick Kolbe Numismatic Literature Auction in New York. In this sale, 16 years after the 1981 London acquisition of five volumes of *Mémoires*, the errant volume was offered as lot 271, THE missing third volume from the Naryshkin set — torn from it who knows when and by what force!

Yes, Montel, does from time to time reunite people, but his track record for doing the same for books, in comparison to George Kolbe, is, in my book, far behind!

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## **;Show and Tell!** Wayne K. Homren

This occasional column provides a forum for NBS members to share their latest finds with their fellow numismatic bibliophiles. Readers are invited to send contributions for future issues. Only a few sentences are required, so it won't take much of your time. Just jot down your ideas and mail them to me at 1810 Antietam Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15206 (or email to [whomren@coinlibrary.com](mailto:whomren@coinlibrary.com)). I'll handle the rest.

This column covers a hodgepodge of material on several areas of numismatics.

### **A DELUXE BEISTLE**

One of my favorite purchases of recent weeks is a nice copy of the Deluxe Beistle (M. L. Beistle, *A Register of Half Dollar Varieties and Sub-Varieties*, 1929). Number 122 of 135 copies produced, the book is covered in limp brown leather with gilt edges. It is interleaved, and includes seven photo-

graphic plates. The frontispiece portrait of the author is autographed in ink. In his foreword, Beistle acknowledges E. H. R. Green, who lent his Half Dollar collection to be photographed for the book.

Local bibliophile John Burns reminded me that a number of Beistle books found their way into the Col. Green estate. Checking my library I pulled out my handpriced copy of the Nov 9-10, 1943 Parke-Bernet Galleries sale of the library of Col. E. H. R. Green. Lot descriptions and prices realized follow:

<u>LOT NO.</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>HAMMER PRICE</u>
327	NUMISMATICS. M.L. Beistle. A Register of Half Dollar Varieties and Sub-Varieties. Illustrated. 8vo, original cloth. 25 copies. Shippensburg, 1929	\$17.00
327A	The same. 50 copies	\$5.00
327B	The same. 114 copies	\$22.50
328	NUMISMATICS. M.L. Beistle. A Register of Half Dollar Varieties and Sub-Varieties. Illustrated, Interleaved throughout. 8vo, original limp morocco, gilt edges. 25 copies. Shippensburg, 1929 EDITION DE LUXE. ONE OF 135 COPIES.	\$160.00
328A	The same. 25 copies	\$70.00
328B	The same. 25 copies	\$90.00
328C	The same. 25 copies	\$80.00

Two things are apparent from the listings. For one, it was probably Col. Green who financed the book's publication, since he had so many remaindered copies. Second, the demand for Deluxe editions was lower than expected, since over half of the issue was unsold fourteen years later.

#### A DELUXE PRUCHA?

Speaking of Deluxe volumes, here's one I wasn't aware of until recently. Most U. S. bibliophiles are familiar with the 1971 book *Indian Peace Medals in American History* by Francis Paul Prucha. The book has always been in demand and has been reprinted in softcover. Recently I purchased a duplicate copy of the original 1971 hardbound version and was surprised to find inside a special page bound at the front containing the following text: "This reference book / about United States Indian / PEACE MEDALS /

by the outstanding authority / on their role in U.S. history / accompanies a silver / MESCALERO APACHE TRIBE / PEACE MEDAL / bearing number \_\_\_ / issued by the Mescalero Apache Tribe / on the Centennial of the / Presidential Executive Order / establishing the / Mescalero Indian Reservation / May 29, 1973 / INDIAN TRIBAL SERIES / PHOENIX, ARIZONA." The number 224 is written in by hand.

Tipped in to the book is a letter on Indian Tribal Series stationery. The first paragraph reads: "This letter is to notify you that your Mescalero Apache Peace medal will be mailed from this office today. It will be sent by registered, first class mail and is insured for \$350.00." The letter goes on to state that several items will be shipped along with the medal, including a copy of the Prucha book. "The State Historical Society of Wisconsin published the first edition of one thousand copies. Three hundred fifty of these have been specially imprinted on the inside to join them permanently to the Mescalero Peace Medal. They are, moreover, autographed by Mr. Wendell Chino, President of the Mescalero Apache Tribe.

#### ELMER'S HISTORY OF NEW JERSEY CURRENCY

Another nice find is a set of unbound signatures comprising a pristine original copy of the 1869 book by Lucius Q. C. Elmer titled *History of the Early Settlement and Progress of Cumberland County, New Jersey; and of the Currency of this and the Adjoining Colonies*. From the Preface, "These sketches of the early history of Cumberland County were prepared a few years ago for the columns of a newspaper. Many of the facts detailed...came to the knowledge of the writer in the course of a somewhat long and protracted career as a lawyer... The chapter giving a history of the money of account and of circulation in this and the adjoining colonies, from their beginnings to a recent date, it is believed embraces facts not to be found in any of our histories, which were fast passing into oblivion, but which are too curious and instructive to be entirely lost."

Elmer notes that accounts in the state were generally kept in pounds, shillings, and pence until after 1799, when a law was passed requiring the use of the new dollar standard. "For several years, however, aged persons inquiring the price of an article in West Jersey or Philadelphia, required to be told the value in shillings and pence, they not being able to keep in mind the newly-created cents or their relative value. Even now, in New York, and East Jersey, where the eighth of a dollar, so long the common coin in use, corresponded with the shilling of account, it is common to state the price of articles, not above two or three dollars, in shillings, as for instance, ten shillings rather than a dollar and a quarter. So lately as 1820

some traders and tavern keepers in East Jersey kept their accounts in York currency." (p137)

#### SHERMAN, THE STATE BANK OF IOWA

The publications of universities and historical societies are often good sources for information on local numismatics. I recently acquired a copy of the July, 1901 issue of the *Annals of Iowa*, an historical quarterly published by the Historical Department of Iowa (Third Series, Vol V, No. 2), and one of the featured articles is *The State Bank of Iowa*, by Maj. Hoyt Sherman (p 93-116). The article describes the full history of the short-lived bank and has ten full-size illustrations of the bank's paper money (front and back) of the \$1,2,3,5, and \$10 notes printed by the American Bank Note Company).

#### SNOWDEN'S STATEMENT REGARDING NATURALIZATION

My last column described an unusual non-numismatic item relating to Mint Director James Ross Snowden (The Cornplanter Memorial). As luck would have it, I stumbled across another Snowden item a few weeks later. This one is an eleven page pamphlet titled "Statement of James Ross Snowden, In Reference To The Naturalization of Aliens in the Supreme Court." Dated September 6th, 1869, it documents Snowden's indignant response to charges that he signed blank naturalization papers while serving as a Judge of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

#### REPRINT OF LOW'S MORELOS ARTICLE

I was pleased to recently discover yet another reprint of Lyman Low's treatise on the coinage of General Morelos (see my article in *The Asylum*, Fall, 1996). This blue, card-covered version was produced in 1990 by Barber & Fox, Ltd, of Washington state. For background information I was also pleased to find and purchase *Morelos of Mexico: Priest, Soldier, Statesman*, by Wilbert H. Timmons, 1963.

#### "IT'S ONLY MONEY!"

Just when you think you've seen it all, something pops up to prove otherwise. This fall I purchased a book on error coins that I hadn't known existed, and has somehow eluded me in the seventeen years I've been col-

lecting American numismatic literature. Written by Jess Bausher and Charles Dolan, M.D., "It's Only Money!" (*A Comedy of Errors*) was published in 1966. The well-illustrated 291-page hardcover book is a reference and price guide for major mint errors. The late Ken Lowe of The Money Tree noted that a copy was sold in one of their mail bid sales a few years ago, but that he had never seen the book before or since. No mention is made of the number of copies printed, but it's hard to believe such a recently published book could be so hard to find. Perhaps Asylum readers could help shed some light on the situation: who else has one of these? (*Author's note: in the time since this was written, copies of the book have been spotted in at least two numismatic literature dealer's auctions*)

#### BOLENDER'S COMMENTS ON CLAPP'S LARGE CENT BOOK

While reviewing a group of auction catalogs I found this item printed on the last page of M. H. Bolender's 77th sale (August 16, 1932):

##### A New Book on Cents

"THE UNITED STATES CENTS OF THE YEARS 1798 AND 1799," by Mr. George H. Clapp, is now on hand, and can be furnished to my customers at \$7 per copy. This book is one of the finest ever published on cents, and should be in the hands of every collector of the large cent series. It is the result of nearly ten years' study by Mr. Clapp. There are 34 obverse dies and 34 reverse dies which, with various combinations, make 47 separate and distinct die-varieties of the 1798 cent, all of which are minutely described and pictured with the finest plates ever made. The price \$7 is less than half the actual cost of producing the book, taking no account whatever of the author's time or effort, which seemed to be a labor of love.

#### BOLENDER'S HOBBY

In the same group of catalogs was Bolender's 54th sale (November 29, 1929), where the last page contained this interesting note, reminiscent of paper money dealer Tom Denly's regular musings on his fishing expeditions:

##### A Coin Dealer's Hobby

Years ago, before I devoted my entire time to the numismatic business and was engaged in the educational field, I used to turn to coins for my recreation and hobby. Now handling coins is a business with me, and other hobbies must be sought. Hunting and fishing are important ones with me. My best day recently was a rattlesnake hunt in the secluded hills east of Galena, Ill., when I was successful in bagging nine rattlers, five of which I brought home alive. The largest one that I took alive was 3 ½ feet long and had ten rattles and a button. It was a beauty of the golden-diamond species.

## More on Charles C. Rood

### Pete Smith

The Summer 1998, issue of *The Asylum* featured Joel Orosz' introduction to Charles Rood, America's "first full-time numismatic literature dealer." I had also written about Rood in the December 1997, issue of *The Numismatist*. I had enough information on Rood for my column but wanted to know more. I contacted Carl Herkowitz and asked him to search for information on Rood. I knew Carl was an accomplished researcher and lived in Detroit, Rood's home town. I had visited the Burton Historical collection in 1994 and suspected that information on Rood could be found there. Most of the biographical material reported here was discovered by Carl.

Charles Rood was born March 10, 1891, according to Social Security records [SSN: 380-22-1287]. Unfortunately, it cannot be confirmed if this Rood later became a numismatic literature dealer. This date of birth, however, fits with other known information. The 1920 Census for Wayne County, Michigan, showed Charles Rood as a single white male, 28 years of age, born in Michigan. He lived at 2164 McClellan with his mother Louisa, age 52, his brother Carleton, age 22, and a 66-year-old lodger.

Listings from Detroit city directories tell much about Rood. The 1906 directory lists Louisa B. Rood, widow of George, living at 45 Milwaukee Avenue. Charles appears first in the 1909 directory as a grinder living with his mother at 55 ½ Milwaukee. For the 1912 directory, Charles is listed as a machinist at 41 Baltimore Avenue, still living with his mother. That year, for the first time, his brother Carl is listed as a student living at the same address.

The occupation of Charles was listed as a telegraph operator in 1914, a clerk in 1916, and a machinist in 1918. In 1920 the family address is shown as 2164 McClellan. His occupation was later listed variously as a machinist or toolmaker. The 1930-31 city directory has an enigmatic listing with the name Emma associated with Charles. Emma Rood was listed at 3414 Hurlbut Avenue in the same directory. This could be his wife, although her name never again appears with his in the directories. This may have been a brief marriage or an error in the directory.

When I first saw Rood's catalogue and the notation, "Established 1930," I assumed it was published in 1931 or later. The Money Tree mail bid sale of June 24, 1995, indicated 1931 for the date. However, the text referred to the previous volume of *The Numismatist* as having 860 pages. Since I did not have those issues, I sent an e-mail to Wayne Homren who confirmed that 860 pages were published in the 1929 volume. Although the catalog may have been published in 1931, that text was apparently written in 1930.

In *The Numismatist* article, I mentioned a collection of letters from Rood that had been preserved by Walter Nichols. They are fragmentary and one-sided, including Rood's letters but not Nichols' responses. Most letters are typed with occasional words emphasized in red ink. (Comment for young people who have never seen a manual typewriter: Some had a ribbon with black ink on top and red on the bottom). These letters provide no biographical material but offer a fascinating insight into Rood's limited success in the literature business.

In a June 25, 1931, letter to Nichols, Rood offered Daniel W. Valentine's *Fractional Currency of the United States* 1924 deluxe edition at \$3.50 and commented, "Valentine's book [is] absolutely perfect, brand new and from my own private library and up to this time Not for Sale, the only other copy I had having been sold long ago...I note your reference to the quantity of auction catalogs and back numbers of Mehl's and Numismatist you have for disposal. The auction catalogs are almost unsaleable and the market is crowded with them, my stock consisting of some three hundred different sales with as many as twenty copies of some of them." More recent dealers can identify with Rood's overstock of slow moving items.

In the correspondence that followed, Rood requested that Nichols send some duplicate material. Rood's letter of August 31, 1931, stated, "I am preparing my stock for the fall and winter trade and am also working on a new catalog and amongst the various lots that have been offered to me it is likely that there will be considerable material that I can add to one or the other." I have not found any confirmation that Rood produced a second catalog.

Nichols offered a group of catalogs but Rood thought the asking price was too high (10/10/31): "I have never paid twenty cents a copy for back numbers; it simply cannot be done. I have in stock at present something like 12,000 back numbers and they cost me between five and six cents per copy. ... I do not know of a single person besides myself who is dealing in this particular variety of literature and I am commencing to understand why... In Norman Shultz's coming sale I have listed something like fifty or sixty lots of literature which includes some priced catalogs of the more prominent sales; he is the only dealer who would accept them—along with several good standard books—and he would not have done so but the proceeds are to be credited to my account and taken out in trade."

Rood received a package from Nichols and agreed to pay \$30, although he was unable to pay immediately (11/14/31): "I am sorry that my failure to remit as promptly as promised has inconvenienced you and on account of an unavoidable illness that I have not yet recovered from I am going to ask you to favor me with just a little more time in which to attend to it. My income from my literature is the only income I have and it is very modest indeed - with more 'buys' than sales."

The city directory for 1931-2 did not indicate an occupation for Rood. It can be assumed that he lost his job as a toolmaker and was selling literature as a necessity.

Rood continued to put off payment (12/11/31): "Yours' of the 9th just received and as soon as a check for \$35.50 which I have coming from the Ohio State Arch. & Historical Society appears, you shall have it. They are one of my very best patrons but are apt to be a little slow at times due to the 'red tape' usually attendant to Museum transactions."

Nichols went after Rood through third parties in his attempt to collect on the debt. He received a letter from Detroit paper money collector Albert Grinnell with a comment about Rood (1/14/32): "I have met Mr. Rood but have never done much business with him. Have heard, however, through several different sources that he is a very slow pay." Nichols also received a response from Clifton A. Temple, Secretary of the Detroit Coin Club (1/16/32): "Regarding Mr. Charles C. Rood, I would suggest that you immediately write to Mr. Duffield, the editor of the Numismatist, and give him all the facts. Mr. Duffield requests all members of the A.N.A. to report to him any offers to dispose of back numbers of the Numismatist as fraud has been practiced in several transactions. The members of the Detroit Coin Club have previously been warned of Mr. Rood and I will read your letter at the next meeting."

Orangeville, Illinois, dealer M.H. Bolender responded (1/23/32): "Just kiss your \$30 good-bye; it is forever gone. Rood is a bad egg, one of the worst kind of crooks. He had no business using my name as a reference, as I certainly could never recommend him, and he knows it. He has owed me over \$100.00 for two years." Frank Duffield responded from Baltimore (1/23/32): "Regarding the party you mention in your letter of the 20th, I am afraid you will not get the money he owes you. You are one of several of his victims. Within the last 18 months I have had similar reports from a number of men, and I don't know how many he has victimized who have not reported to me."

Salt Lake City dealer Norman Schultz wrote (1/25/32): "I am sorry to say that he owes me money. He owed me \$90. for some coins sent to him two years ago." Sydney Noe, Secretary for the American Numismatic Society wrote (1/27/32): "It is pretty difficult to sell anything at the present day and that is the only justification I can suggest in defense of Mr. Rood. I am very sorry to hear of the difficulties into which he has got himself because there is room in this country for someone who will deal in numismatic literature." Nichols also heard from Herbert A. Brand of Cincinnati (7/26/32): "I am also an unfortunate victim of this man to the extent of some \$300.00 to \$400.00."

Nichols contacted the Merchants Credit Bureau in Detroit and they agreed to represent Nichols for a third of any funds recovered. They re-

ported (2/2/32): "Debtor is unemployed at present and there is no chance for collection until he secures a position." Nichols also contacted the Post Office Department, but after several exchanges of correspondence, the Post Office chose not to take any action against Rood.

A gap in correspondence was broken with Rood's letter of November 6, 1933. The tone of the letter indicates that they must have settled their differences. "Following is a list of choice books which I recently acquired...all are in fine to new condition and as I no longer deal in anything but the best in finest condition you may be sure they are all desirable:

Sandham, Alfred, 'Coins, Tokens, and Medals of Canada' 1859. This one includes the supplement @ \$4.00.

Davis, Andrew McFarland, 'Tracts relating to the Currency of Mass. Bay' 1902. New \$4.00.

Pye, Chas. 'Provincial Copper Coins or Tokens' 1796. In fine condition with new half leather binding. Rare and Choice 5.00.

Bushnell, Chas. I. 'Tradesmens & Political Tokens' 1858. An extremely rare book in choice condition. 4 plates @ 7.00.

Frossard 'U.S. Cents and Half Cents' 1878. No better book on this series. 7.50.

Hickcox. 'American Coinage' 1858. I tried for two years to locate a copy of this book to fill a want list and after I finally secured this copy - just recently - the party had changed their mind. 7.50.

You might wonder how I can afford all these rare and expensive books. All of them were obtained from auction dealers whom I had a credit coming for material I was obliged to sell to keep going."

Rood concluded his letter, "You are probably aware that you were not the only one to get the impression that 'he had been gypped by a miserable & conscienceless crook.' Nearly all of my debts are paid with interest of one kind or another and several that I owed have cooperated with me in getting squared around. In every case I have had no difficulty (so far) in getting a receipt that I may be called upon to produce some time in justice to myself or to settle a controversy with some one who still insists that I am dishonest and have not paid my debts. Every coin club [sic] has it's busy-bodies, Detroit being no exception - although I have several friends in this club." The misspelling of club is one of very few spelling or typographical errors seen in the correspondence.

Rood explained some of his difficulties in his letter of January 8, 1934. "Your letters have been extremely agreeable and pleasant and have certainly had a good effect on my determination to get squared up and stay that way."

"As for Mr. Brand's worries that some of the material you obtained might be his let me assure you that none of his Numismatists were in any such choice condition as the new ones you got (which were all purchased from

the duplicates of the A.N.S.). I'll tell you the Brand story some time; there are two sides to it. Incidentally, after I had purchased his stuff with a down payment of \$50.00 and the balance on contract he came down to Detroit right from a drunken party in Cincinnati which broke up at 2 a.m. (by his own admission) and apparently he spent the rest of the night driving here. I was just a few days late with my second payment and had wired him to reassure him that I would have it in a few days and not to be alarmed."

"He was very offensive, would not listen to any excuses and although I had him spend the night at my house rather than go to a hotel, wanted me to pay for his trip here and informed me that he had written to Duffield and quite a few others and that I would not be permitted to advertise in '*Numismatist*.' In other words Brand not only made it almost impossible for me to do business but he made it almost impossible for me to pay him."

"Hesslein was responsible for my inability to meet the payment at the time agreed. He requested me to ship him practically all of Brands' material and then tried to beat me out of it, and I was depending on that transaction to make Brand's payment. Hesslein had me just about at the verge of a nervous breakdown and it was necessary to get the Boston authorities after him before I could get any satisfaction out of him and it ended in all the stuff coming back but two books which he paid for."

Rood's letter of November 6, 1934, stated, "Your nice letter of recent date at hand and after looking into the inquiries you make relative to back numbers of '*Numismatist*' required I find that I can supply complete volumes of the very scarce years 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900, 1901, 1902 and 1904 at \$3.50 per volume delivered. ... Recently sold 1,246 copies of '*Numismatist*' to a dealer and this disposes of just about all the back numbers I have at present." With this offer, Rood was acting as a middleman on the deal.

In his article, Joel Orosz comments on Rood's offer of *The Numismatist* of 1894-1899 at \$4.00 per volume and issues of 1900-1910 at \$5.00 per volume. Orosz questioned the price relative to rarity. Another possibility is that the 1900-1910 issues were larger and better illustrated. Perhaps in 1930, content was considered more important than rarity. Another possibility is that the volumes from 1900-1910 were still held by current members while earlier editions were starting to emerge on the secondary market from collectors who were disposing of their holdings.

Rood showed a true affection for the literature although perhaps a lack of knowledge. "The finest and most remarkable book I have ever owned devoted to numismatics is my catalog of the Lord Pembroke Collection of Greek and Roman coins, 1746. The huge and elaborate volume is nearly three inches in thickness, bound in the finest of seal grain padded leather with ribbed back and gold lettering, has over three hundred copper engraved plates, gilt edged pages and in perfect condition inside and out. It

was evidently made to order complete to illustrate what must have been one of the finest private collections extant and probably but one copy of the book was made and printed, for His Lordship's private use and display."

Books from that era were not issued in standard binding but were bound at the discretion of the owners. Although each leather bound copy of the Pembroke catalog might have a unique binding, Rood greatly overstated the rarity of his favorite book.

In a letter dated December 4, 1933, Rood commented, "Almost forgot to tell you to send your reply to this letter to me, care of Frank Hadley, 112 John R. Street, Detroit as I will be occupying his office for several days during the absence of Mr. Hadley, the tenant and all my other mail comes to my residence."

The last (known) letter from Rood to Nichols was dated May 3, 1938. "I have often wondered how things were going with you. They are pretty bad here and I have been obliged to part with a number of my choicest items at big losses. One of my best now remaining is an unusually fine copy of Crosby's 'Early Coins of America,' 1875 (only edition that I know of) just about perfect, like new. I purchased this from Elder's sale of April 5, 6 and 7th, 1934 for \$38.00 (his comm. included). It was lot #2550 ... Look it up if you have the catalog or price list."

"I've hung on to it to the last. At the present time it is in the safe of Frank E. Hadley (stamp & coin dealer here) who loaned me \$18 on it. It has never even been used and has been carefully wrapped with the exception of the one time I unwrapped it to show Mr. Hadley. I never offered it for sale locally."

"I now offer it for \$22.00 for immediate acceptance if you can use it, to be shipped either Express or P.P. Collect. I lose just \$16.00 and salvage just \$4.00 after paying Mr. Hadley his \$18.00."

Rood worked hard to make a deal. Several letters may have resulted in a \$5.00 sale. Parts of his correspondence relate to uncirculated and proof gold coins offered at near bullion rate. It appears that by 1938, both his collection and library had been broken up and sold, often at a loss.

City directory listings for the period of the 1930's may be the most interesting since these were the years when Rood was also in the business of selling numismatic literature. He was listed as a toolmaker in 1930-31 and again in 1932-33, a tool operator with Joseph Lamb Company in 1934-35, an automobile mechanic in 1937 and a toolmaker in 1938-39.

I have an observation that may or may not be relevant. Most of Rood's letters through 1931 were typed. Those from 1932 are written by hand. Letters after January 1933, are again typed. The use of red for highlights begins early in 1934. The inconsistency suggests he may have had access to a typewriter only through his place of employment or through Hadley. If

Rood had access to Hadley's office, he may have also sold some of his collection and library through Hadley. Perhaps he worked there part time in exchange for favors or to pay off previous purchases..

Some may interpret the Rood correspondence and consider him a con artist attempting to pay for his last deal with the proceeds from his next. I feel his financial difficulties must be considered in context with the times. For anyone who lost their job in the Depression, it was tough to get by. I believe Rood tried to turn his hobby into a business at a time when it was obviously very difficult to get many buyers interested in numismatic literature. He bought a large stock with the hope of selling at a profit and ended up selling the choicest items from his private collection.

The last listing that Carl found for Charles was in 1941. He was a grinder working for Troy Tool & Gauge Company and still living with his mother. After 1941, there is a gap in the directories, and Charles and Louisa do not appear again.

Brother Carl R. Rood married Irene and took up residence at 3502 Berwick Avenue. The 1954 city directory shows Carl, a repairman for Detroit Transmission, living at his mother's house at 2164 McClellan. Later he is at that address with Louis Rood, probably his son.

The Charles Rood found in Social Security records died in May 1969 in New York City. There is more to his story yet to be told. A sharp researcher could probably find records in New York City related to his later years there including full date of death and an obituary.

A search of Detroit public records might turn up confirmation of his marriage. I found about a dozen Rood's in current Detroit phone directories. Perhaps one is a descendent of Charles or Carl and could provide family information.

The Rood fixed price list was listed and illustrated in Remy Bourne's 1989 reference *Fixed Price Lists & Prices Paid For Lists of United States Coin Dealers 1930-39*. I reviewed the material prior to publication, and if I saw the Rood catalog, it left no lasting impression. It was Remy who showed me the catalog in 1997 and suggested Rood as a topic for my column in *The Numismatist*.

How rare is the Rood literature price list? I recall that Ken Lowe told me that The Money Tree had handled three copies. Remy Bourne and George Kolbe have each handled one. The ANA library has one. A Michigan collector told me during the ANA Convention in Portland that he had one that had not come from the dealers mentioned. As a previously unappreciated item, other examples may have passed without notice. Because of interest generated by recent publications, demand exceeds supply.

What is Rood's legacy? For now he remains the first to issue a catalog devoted exclusively to numismatic literature. Although it may have briefly been his only source of income, the correspondence confirms that it did

not provide a decent living. It also appears that he acquired duplicates originally while building his library rather than intentionally for resale. After he started selling his duplicates, he was soon forced to sell his collection.

I see Rood, not as a pioneer, but as a missing link. He acquired, preserved and disseminated literature at a time when no one else stepped forward to provide that service.

---

### George Marion Klein of Vicksburg, Mississippi My Great-Grandfather J. H. McInnis

G. M. Klein was born in Vicksburg on 5 July 1844, the first child (of 10) of John Alexander and Elizabeth Bartley (Day) Klein. In pre-Civil War days, the Kleins were very wealthy and had a "town house," *Cedar Grove*, just south of Vicksburg with large grounds overlooking the Mississippi River; in addition, they owned a plantation, *Ball Ground*, north of Vicksburg along the Yazoo River. John Alexander Klein had come to Vicksburg from Virginia as a jeweler but made a fortune in lumber and railroads. George enjoyed the benefits and privileges of wealth in his youth and survived service in the Confederate Army during the Civil War. The Kleins suffered financial losses as a result of the war but were not "wiped out" as so many southerners were. On 30 July 1868 George married Louise Harrison Balfour, the oldest child of Dr. William Thomas and Emma (Harrison) Balfour—Dr. Balfour being a well established and respected Vicksburg physician. Following the war, John Alexander and George Marion Klein remained prominent in Vicksburg, both being involved in various activities—most notably banking. John Alexander Klein retired from active participation in business due to ill health and died on 3 Feb 1884. Following his father's retirement, George Marion Klein assumed the Presidency of the Mississippi Valley Bank which failed due to a combination of circumstances. George made concerted efforts to make good on the banks losses from his own funds and, it would appear, this is at least part of the reason why his coin collection was liquidated. George Marion Klein lived on for a number of years and died in Vicksburg on 22 Dec 1923.

*Editor's Note: Mr. McInnis would like to obtain the four auction sale catalogues of his Great-Grandfather's notable coin collection, issued by W. Elliot Woodward, 1888-1889.*

## Variants of the 1851 Roper Auction Sale Catalogue

P. Scott Rubin, NLG

The December 12th, 1998 George Frederick Kolbe sale of the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Numismatic Library, Part One, included as lot 266 the February 20th, 1851, M. Thomas and Sons sale of the Dr. Lewis Roper collection. This named and priced copy includes a one page addenda that has not been recorded before. It, however, is not the only noteworthy feature of this particular catalogue. The last printed page of the catalogue includes the following information printed at the bottom of page 24:

### M. Thomas & Sons,

Philada., February, 1851.      Auctioneers, 93 Walnut St.

This is not printed in all known copies of this catalogue. The Bass example was the auction room copy of the famous numismatist Charles I. Bushnell. The auction room copy of a lesser-known early American coin collector Richard W. Davids does not include this printed identification, nor do two other copies that this author has been able to locate. Both of these copies show the vertical line separating the lot descriptions from the Remarks section starting at about  $\frac{1}{2}$  an inch from the top of the page to about the same distance from the bottom of the page, even though the last printed lot is about two inches from the bottom of the page. On the Bushnell copy, and another copy in the Bass library, this line follows through part of the M. Thomas & Sons' printed ending. It comes just to the left of the letter S in Sons on the Bushnell example.

Why is this bit of trivia important? It appears to demonstrate that there were two printings of this catalogue before the sale took place. This is significant because, as Emmanuel Joseph Attinelli stated in the description of the 1851 Lewis Roper sale in his work *A Bibliography of American Numismatic Auction Catalogues 1828-1875*: "This is, it is believed, the first coin sale in this country, in which sufficient interest was manifested by numismatists to take note of the prices paid for coins, and who were the purchasers."

John W. Adams estimated in the 1976 Quarterman Publications, Inc. reprint of Mr. Attinelli's book that between 4 to 12 copies of the 1851 Roper sale survive. In the years since 1976 no hoard of this catalogue has appeared, and current estimates of surviving copies fall within this range.

It would appear that over thirty individuals were successful in winning lots at the Roper sale and one would guess that a larger number took part in it. This was four years before Augustus B. Sage would hold his first coin auction, seven years before Edward Cogan would conduct his famous large

cent sale, and nine years before W. Elliot Woodward catalogued his first numismatic auction.

The Roper sale took place in Philadelphia, the home town of Richard W. Davids. Charles I. Bushnell was from New York City. This may be important in establishing a reason for the two different printings. It is probable that Davids read about the upcoming Roper sale in the local newspaper. It also seems reasonable to assume that in 1851 Mr. Thomas did not realize the appeal his auction might have outside the city of Philadelphia. In 1851 there was virtually no prior experience that would have allowed M. Thomas & Sons to judge the interest a coin auction might engender.

The sale did indeed attract buyers outside the Philadelphia area and it should be noted that in the Davids and some other copies of the Roper sale, no city is mentioned. It thus seems reasonable that when out of town inquires arrived at the Moses Thomas and Sons office, the firm tried to remedy this serious oversight by printing the relevant information on a prominent area of the catalogue. Since the title page was already full of information about the sale, the nearly blank area at the base of the last page was a likely alternative.

Greater demand for what is now known as the first United States coin auction where prices realized were recorded may have caused the auction house to advertise the sale in out of town publications. We do not know if Mr. Bushnell received his copy by mail or if he acquired it at the sale itself. What we do know is that, at least in the case of the Davids and Bushnell copies, not only were prices realized recorded but also the names of the buyers. This, as Attinelli notes, also was a first for an American coin sale.

In comparing the names in the two copies, with the help of George Kolbe, it was found that different spellings were recorded for different buyers. It would seem that although the individual buyers meet each other at the sale, they did not always hear or learn the correct name of those in attendance. This is proved by Bushnell recording lots bought by Davids under the name *David*, while in Davids' copy his name is correctly spelled. This does not mean the Davids copy was without error, Mickley, for example, is spelled *Micklen*.

How many copies of the 1851 Roper sale feature this added imprint? At present, only the two Bass catalogues are known to feature it.

Following is the pedigree of Bushnell's copy of the 1851 Roper Sale:

- 1) S.H. & H. Chapman sale of the Charles I. Bushnell Collection, June 20, 1882, lot 2937; 2) W. Elliot Woodward; 3) W. Elliot Woodward's 69th sale, October 13, 1884, lot 3310; 4) W. Elliot Woodward's 96th sale, August 20, 1888, lot 1852; 5) David Proskey; 6) Proskey Estate; 7) Abe Kosoff; 8) Dr. Ralph R. Ritzman; 9) Sylvester Colby Sale, August 8, 1968, lot 149 [catalogued as the 1851 Rooper (*sic*) Sale]; 10) Harry W. Bass, Jr.; 11) George Frederick Kolbe's December 12, 1998 sale, lot 266

## Between the Covers

### Colonel Bill Murray, NLG

You can pick up information in the darndest places. Recently I read in a mystery (I call them my mental cathartics) about a bookseller cum burglar. Is that a euphemism? In this novel, much of the plot centers around a book – an “associated copy” – with which the protagonist, Bernie Rhodenbar, becomes embroiled.

Being a bibliomaniac, a fact my wife decries but endures, I was pleased to get this bit of bibliographical information from my reading and it sent me to my copy of *John Carter's ABC For Book Collectors*. There I found, “ASSOCIATION COPY - This term...is applied to a copy which once belonged to, or was annotated by, the author; or someone of interest in his own right...”

As we read the catalogs of our dealer members, it is evident that an association copy must have added value, or at least so the dealers believe, since notations of such associations find their way into the catalogs. Associated copies have more interest, and more value, than inscribed copies or presentation copies. A presentation copy is a “spontaneous gift” by the author while the inscribed copy usually is in response to the book owner’s request. An inscribed or presentation copy also may claim a premium, especially if the book itself is considered scarce or rare.

Scarce or rare - these, too, are interesting terms. If I’m selling to you, it’s rare. If you’re buying, it probably is not even scarce - something like coin transactions. NBS prexy, Michael Sullivan, in a recent communication stated, “...it doesn’t take a lot of books to be common. 1,000 copies of a Steven King novel would be a rare edition, but in numismatic literature, that’s common. 300 might be ‘scarce,’ 100 or less would be ‘rare’, in my opinion.”

Michael went on to say, “I doubt there will be a shortage of opinions among our readership; what do you think?”

What do you think?

Carter’s take on rarity starts out, “Rarity is the salt in book-collecting. But if you take too much salt, the flavour of the dish is spoiled; and if you take it neat it will make you sick. Similarly, those book-collectors who exalt rarity above any other criterion tend to develop third-degree bibliomania, which is a painful and slightly ridiculous ailment.”

As for me, I’m going to look for more of bookseller-burglar Bernie Rhodenbar’s adventures.

## News From the Net

### Pete Smith

A list of Internet addresses for members was collected during the NBS meeting at the ANA convention in Portland in August. Other addresses were added as word of the list spread via word-of-mouth or whatever the equivalent is for Internet correspondence. A notice was posted on the Web on September 4, 1998.

NBS vice-president Wayne Homren started distributing news via a monitored newsletter. Distribution has generally been on Fridays and 12 reports were sent through the end of 1998. Wayne will accept new subscribers at [whomren@coinlibrary.com](mailto:whomren@coinlibrary.com).

Following are some of the items shared in the NBS Internet newsletter:

#### NBS WEB SITE

The Numismatic Bibliomania has a web site at [http://www.money.org/club\\_nbs.html](http://www.money.org/club_nbs.html). This site will be moved to a new host early in 1999.

#### PERSONAL NEWS

NBS vice president Wayne Homren announced the birth of his son, Christopher Knobel Homren, born on December 18, 1998. Pictures were soon posted on Wayne's Web site: <http://www.coinlibrary.com/personal/christopher.html>. Weight was 8 lb., 12 oz; length 21 inches.

#### PUBLICATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Richard Doty announced publication of *The Soho Mint and the Industrialization of Money* available from the British Numismatic Society, Spink and other dealers.

Ronald Greene announced publication of R.C. Willey's *Dictionary of Canadian Numismatics* by the Canadian Numismatic Research Society. It is somewhat similar to Forrer's *Biographical Dictionary of Medalists* listing anyone who has designed, engraved or struck coins, tokens or medals in Canada. Information is available from Greene at [pdgreen@pinc.com](mailto:pdgreen@pinc.com).

Brad Karoleff announced a new book on U.S. Half Dimes by Russ Logan and John McClosky to be published next year. Ordering information is available at [Karoleffs4@aol.com](mailto:Karoleffs4@aol.com).

Achal Madhavan announced publication of *Ancient Indian Numismatics* by Shankar Goyal and *Ariana Antiqua: A Descriptive Account of the Antiquities and Coins of Afghanistan* by C. Masson. Information is available from [vedams@vedamsbooks.com](mailto:vedams@vedamsbooks.com).

Pete Smith announced publication of *Laws of the U. S. Congress Authorizing Medals* including text of more than 200 laws related to authorization of medals. Ordering information is available from Smith at smith.pete@dorseylaw.com.

#### RESEARCH HELP REQUESTED

Joel Orosz is looking for an example of Jeremiah Colburn's signature for comparison with a possible signature appearing in a large-paper Cogan catalog. Joel can be reached at jjo@wkkf.org.

Phil Ralls is gathering information on copies of Howard Newcomb's book *The United States Cents of the Years 1801-1802-1803*. He has gathered information on 24 known copies of the book. He asks that others contact him at ralls@hsc.usc.edu.

Bob Cochran asked how many complete sets of *Paper Money* were known. He received several responses. Those sets reported include: 1) Joe Adamski; 2) Bob Cochran (unbound); 3) Bob Cochran (bound); 4) Missouri Numismatic Society library; 5) Tom O'Meara (bound); 6) Tom Sheehan; 7) SPMC Library; 8) Michael J. Sullivan

#### SALES ANNOUNCED

Dan Friedus announced that he had some literature for sale on eBay (the Internet auction service). Information was available at freidus@wwnet.com.

George Kolbe announced upcoming sales scheduled for December 12 and 15, 1998. The first is part I of the Harry W. Bass, Jr. library.

Money Tree announced their sale of October 30, 1998. David Sklow has joined the firm as cataloguer following the tragic early death of Ken Lowe. Firm partner Myron Xenos can be reached at xenos@bright.net.

Richard Stockley has a numismatic book list available on-line. The address is stockley@total.net.

#### SPEAKERS ON NUMISMATIC LITERATURE

Joel Orosz spoke to the Chicago Coin Club in October on "Early U.S. Coin Collectors from before 1858" including John Christopher of New York City, The Reverend Andrew Eliot of Boston, Robert Gilmore, Jr. of Baltimore and Pierre Eugène Du Simitière of Philadelphia.

Michael Sullivan was scheduled to present his paper on counterfeit detection literature at the ANS 1998 Coinage of the Americas Conference November 7, 1998. This literature was the subject of Sullivan's first place exhibit at the ANA Convention in Portland. Sullivan also previewed his talk at the NBS meeting in Portland.

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2) **Castenholz and Sons Numismatic Booksellers:** *The Numismatic Messenger.* Pacific Palisades, California. Complete set: Vol. 1, No. 1 through Vol. 2, No. 11/12 (Jan. 1971 through Dec. 1972). 24 numbers in 23 issues. Octavo, card covers. A quality publication offering authoritative articles, coins for sale, and their specialty, new and second-hand books. We have sold these in the past for \$40-50. We have purchased the entire remaining hoard and can offer as new complete sets for \$30. We have a very few sets, in a single red cloth volume, priced at \$50. Prices include postage in the U.S.; outside the U.S. add \$5.

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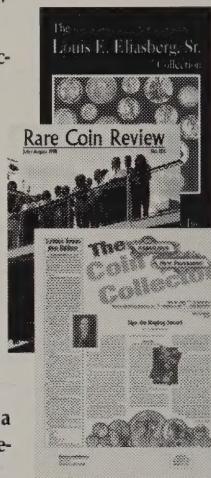
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